

THE  
TROUBLESOME  
RAIGNE AND LAMEN-

table death of EDVVARD the  
*second, King of England:*

WITH  
The Tragical fall of proud  
MORTIMER.

And also the life and death of Peirs Gamestone, the  
*great Earle of Cornewall, and mighty Fauorite*  
of King EDVVARD the second.

As it was publikely acted by the right Honou-  
*rable the Earle of Pembroke his*  
*seruants.*

Written by Christopher Marlow Gent.



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THE

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*Enter Gauestone reading on a Letter that was brought  
him from the King.*

**M**Y Father is deceast, come *Gauestone*,  
And share the Kingdome with thy dearest friend.  
Ah words that make me surfet with delight,  
What greater blisse can hap to *Gaueston*,  
Then live and be the Favorite of a King?  
Sweete Prince I come: These these, thy amorous lines  
Might haue enforst me to haue swum from France,  
And like *Leander* gaspt vpon the sand,  
So thou wouldst smile and take me in thine armes.  
The sight of London to my exil'd eyes,  
Is as Elizium to a new come soule,  
Not that I loue the City or the men,  
But that it harbors him I hold so deere,  
The King, vpon whose bosome let me dye,  
And with the world be still at enmity:  
What need the Articke people loue star-light,  
To whom the sunne shines both by day and night.  
Farewell base stooping to the Lordly Peeres,  
My knees shall bow to none but to the King,  
As for the multitude that are but sparkes  
Rakt vp in embers of their pouerty,  
*Tanti*: He fanne first on the winde,  
That glaunceth at my lips and flyeth away:  
But how now, what are these?

*Enter three poore men.*

*Poore men.* Such as desire your worships seruice.

*Gauest.* What canst thou doe?

1. *Poore.* I can ride.

*Gauest.* But I haue no horse. What art thou?

2. *Poore.* A Traueller.

*Gauest.* Let me see, thou wouldst doe well  
To waite at my Trencher, and tell me lies at dinner time,

And



*The Tragedy*

And as I like your discoursing, ile haue you.

And what art thou?

3. *Poore.* A Souldier that hath serued against the Scot.

*Gane.* Why, there are Hospitals for such as you,  
I haue no warre, and therefore Sir be gone.

*Soul* Farewell, and perish by a Souldier's hand,  
That would' it reward them with an Hospitall.

*Gau.* I, I, these words of his moue me as much  
As if a Goose should play the Porcupine  
And dart her Plumes, thinking to pierce my brest,  
But yet it is no paine to speake men faire,  
Ile flatter these, and make them liue in hope:  
You know that I came lately out of France,  
And yet I haue not veiw'd my Lord the King:  
If I speede well, ile entertaine you all.

*Omnes.* We thanke your worship.

*Gau.* I haue some businesse, leaue me to my selfe.

*Omnes.* We will waite here about the Court. *Exeunt.*

*Gau.* Do : these are not men for me,  
I must haue wanton Poets, Pleasant wits,  
Musitians that with touching of a string  
May draw the pliant King which way I please:  
Musicke and Poetry is his delight,  
Therefore ile haue Italian Maskes by night,  
Sweete speeches, Comedies, and pleasing shewes,  
And in the day when he shall walke abroad,  
Like *Siluan* Nymphs my Pages shall be clad,  
My men like Satyres grazing on the Lawnes  
Shall with their Goate-feete dance the Anticke Hay,  
Sometime a louely Boy in *Dians* shape,  
With haire that gilds the Water as it glides,  
Crownets of Pearle about his naked armes,  
And in his sportfull hands an Oliuetree,  
To hide those parts which men delight to see,  
Shall bath him in a Spring, and there hard by,  
One like *Acteon* peeping through the Groue,  
Shall by the angry Goddesse be transform'd,  
And running in the likenesse of an Hart,



*of Edward the second.*

By yelping hounds puld downe, and seeme to dye,  
Such things as these best please his Maiesty,  
My Lord, here comes the King and the Nobles  
From the Parlament, ile stand aside.

*Enter the King, Lancaster, Mortimer senior, Mortimer in-  
nior, Edmond Earle of Kent, Guy Earle of Warwicke, &c.*

*Ed. Lancaster.*

*Lan. My Lord.*

*Gauc. That Earle of Lancaster doe I abhorre.*

*Ed. Will you not grant me this? in spite of them  
Ile haue my will, and these two Mortimers  
That crosse me thus, shall know I am displeas'd.*

*Mor. se. If you loue vs my Lord, hate Gaucstone.*

*Gauc. That Villaine Mortimer, ile be his death.*

*Mor. in. Mine Vncle here, this Earle, and I my selfe  
Were sworne to your father at his death,  
That he should nere returne into the Realme:  
And know my Lord, ere I will breake my oath,  
This sword of mine that should offend your foes,  
Shall sleepe within the scaberd at thy neede,  
And vnderneath thy Banners march who will,  
For Mortimer will hang his Armor vp.*

*Gaucst. Mort. dien.*

*Ed. Well Mortimer, ile make thee rue these words.  
Beseemes it thee to contradict thy King?  
Frounst thou thereat aspiring Lancaster,  
The Sword shall plaine the frownes of thy browes,  
And hew these knees that now are growne so stiffe,  
I will haue Gaucston, and you shall know,  
What danger tis to stand against your King.*

*Gaucst. Well done, Ned.*

*Lan. My Lord, why do you thus incense your Peeres,  
That naturally would loue and honour you:  
But for that base and obscure Gaucston,  
Foure Earldomes haue I besides Lancaster,  
Darby, Salisbury, Lincolne, Leicester,  
These will I sell to giue my Souldiers pay,  
Ere Gaucston shall stay within the realme,*



*The Tragedy*

Therefore if he be come, expell him straight.

*Ed.* Barons and Earles, your pride hath made me mute,  
But now Ile speake, and to the prooffe I hope:  
I doe remember in my fathers dayes,  
Lord *Piercy* of the North being highly mou'd,  
Braue'd *Moubray* in presence of the King,  
For which had not his highnesse lou'd him well,  
He should haue lost his head, but with his looke,  
The vndaunted spirit of *Piercie* was appeas'd,  
And *Moubray* and he were reconcilde:  
Yet dare you braue the King vnto his face.  
Brother reuenge it, and let these their heads,  
Preach vpon poles for trespasse of their tongues.

*War.* O our heads.

*Edw.* I yours, and therefore I would wish you grant.

*War.* Bridle thy anger gentle *Mortimer*,

*Mor. in.* I cannot, nor I will not, I must speake,  
Cousin, our hands I hope shall fence our heads,  
And strike off his that makes you threaten vs:  
Come vncle let vs leaue the brain sicke King,  
And henceforth parly with our naked swords.

*Mor. se.* Wiltshire hath men enough to saue our heads,

*War.* All Warwickshire will loue him for my sake.

*Lanc.* And Northward *Gauestone* hath many friends.  
Adew my Lord, and either change your minde,  
Or looke to see the Throne where you should sit  
To floate in bloud, and at thy wanton head,  
The glosing head of thy base minion throwne.

*Exeunt Nobles.*

*Edw.* I cannot brooke these hautie menaces:  
Am I a King, and must be ouer-rul'd?  
Brother display my Ensignes in the field,  
Ile bandy with the Barons and the Earles,  
And either dye or liue with *Gaueston*.

*Gaue.* I can no longer keepe me from my Lord.

*Edw.* What *Gauestone*, welcome, kisse not my hand,  
Embrace me *Gauestone* as I do thee:  
Why shouldst thou kneele,

*Knowest*



*of Edward the second.*

Know'st thou not who I am?  
Thy friend, thy selfe, another *Gaueston*,  
Not *Hilas* was more mourned for of *Hercules*,  
Then thou hast beene of me since thy exile.

*Gauc.* And since I went from hence, no soule in hell  
Hath felt more torment then poore *Gaueston*.

*Ed.* I know it, Brother welcome home my friend,  
Now let the trecherous *Mortimers* conspire,  
And that high minded Earle of *Lancaster*,  
I haue my wish in that I ioy thy sight,  
And sooner shall the Sea orewhelme my Land,  
Then beare the Ship that shall transport thee hence:  
I heere create thee Lord high Chamberlaine,  
Chiefe Secretary to the State and me,  
Earle of Cornwall, King and Lord of man.

*Gauc.* My Lord these Titles farre exceede my worth.

*Kent.* Brother the least of these may well suffice  
For one of greater birth then *Gaueston*.

*Edw.* Cease brother, For I cannot brooke these words:  
Thy worth sweet friend is farre aboue my gifts,  
Therefore to equall it, receiue my heart,  
If for these dignities thou be enui'd,  
Ile giue thee more, for but to honour thee,  
Is *Edward* pleas'd with Kingly regiment,  
Fearst thou thy person? thou shalt haue a guard:  
Wants thou Gold? go to my Treasury.  
Wouldst thou be lou'd and fear'd? receiue my scale,  
Saue or condemne, and in our name command,  
What so thy minde affects or fancy likes.

*Gauc.* It shall suffice me to enioy your loue,  
Which whiles I haue, I thinke my selfe as great  
As *Cesar* riding in the *Romane* streere,  
With Captiue Kings at his triumphant Carre.

*Enter the Bishop of Conentry.*

*Ed.* Whither goes my Lord of Conentry so fast?

*Bish.* To celebrate your fathers exequies,  
But is that wicked *Gauestone* return'd?

*Edw.* I priest, and liues to be reueng'd on thee,

B

That



## *The Tragedy*

That wert the only cause of his exile.

*Gauc.* Tis true, and but for reuerence of these robes,  
Thou shouldst not plod one foote beyond this place.

*Bish.* I did no more then I was bound to do,  
And *Gauceston* vnlesse thou be reclaimd,  
As then I did incense the Parliament,  
So will I now, and thou shalt back to France.

*Gauc.* Sauing your reuerence, you must pardon me.

*Ed.* Throw off his golden Miter, rend his stole,  
And in the channell christen him anew.

*Kent.* Ah brother, lay not violent hands on him,  
For heele complaine vnto the Sea of Rome.

*Gauc.* Let him complaine vnto the sea of hell,  
He be reueng'd on him for my exile.

*Edw.* No, spare his life, but seize vpon his goods,  
Be thou Lord Bishop, and receiue his rents,  
And make him serue thee as thy Chaplaine,  
I giue him thee, heere vse him as thou wilt.

*Gauc.* He shall to prison, and there dye in bolts.

*Edw.* I to the Tower, the Fleete, or where thou wilt.

*Bish.* For this offence be thou accurst of God.

*Edw.* Whose there? Conuey this Priest to the Tower.

*Bish.* True, true.

*Edw.* But in the meantime *Gauceston* away,  
And take possession of his house and goods:  
Come follow me, and thou shalt haue my Guard  
To see it done, and bring thee safe againe.

*Gauc.* What should a Priest do with so faire a house,  
A prison may best beseme his holinelle.

*Enter both the Mortimers, Warwicke  
and Lancaster.*

*War.* Tis true, the Bishop is in the Tower,  
And goods and body giuen to *Gauceston*.

*Lan.* What? will they tyrannize vpon the Church?  
Ah wicked King, accursed *Gauceston*,  
This ground which is corrupted with their steps,  
Shall be their timelesse sepulcher, or mine.

*Mor. in.* Well, let that peeuish Frenchman guard him  
sure  
Vnlesse



*of Edward the second.*

Vnlesse his brest be sword prooffe he shall dye.

*Mor. se.* How now, why droopes the Earle of Lancaster?

*Mor. in.* Wherefore is *Guy* of Warwick discontent?

*Lan.* That Villaine *Gascon* is made an Earle.

*Mor. se.* An Earle!

*War.* I, and besides Lord Chamberlaine of the realme,  
And Secretary too, and Lord of Man.

*Mor. se.* We may not nor we will not suffer this,

*Mor. in.* Why post we not from hence to leuie men?

*Lan.* My Lord of Cornewall now at euery word,  
And happy is the man, whom he vouchsafes  
For vailing of his bonnet one good lookc,  
Thus arme in arme, the King and he doth march:  
Nay more, the Guard vpon his Lordship waites:  
And all the Court begins to flatter him.

*War.* Thus leaning on the shoulder of the King,  
He nods, and scornes, and smiles at those that passe.

*Mor. se.* Doth no man take exceptions at the flauel?

*Lan.* All stomack him, but none dare speake a word.

*Mor. in.* Ah that bewrayes their basenesse Lancaster,  
Were all the Earles and Barons of my mind,  
Weele hale him from the bosome of the King,  
And at the Court gate hang the Pefant vp,  
Who swolne with venome of ambitious pride,  
Will be the ruine of the realme and vs.

*Enter the Bishop of Canterbury.*

*War.* Heere comes my Lord of Canterburies Grace.

*Lan.* His countenance bewrayes he is displeas'd.

*Bish.* First were his sacred garments rent and torne,  
Then laid they violent hands vpon him next,  
Himselfe imprisoned, and his goods asceas'd,  
This certifie the Pope, away take horse.

*Lan.* My Lord, will you take armes against the King?

*Bish.* What neede I, God himselfe is vp in armes,  
When violence is offered to the Church.

*Mor. in.* Then will you ioyn with vs that be his Peeres  
To banish or behead that *Gascon*?

*Bish.* What else my Lords, for it concernes me neere,



*The Tragedy*

**The Bishopricke of Conentry is his.**

*Enter the Queene.*

*Mor. in.* Madame, whither walkes your maiesty so fast?

*Que.* Vnto the Forrest gentle Mortimer,  
To liue in griefe and balefull discontent,  
For now my Lord the King regards me not,  
But dotes vpon the loue of *Ganeston*.  
He claps his cheekes and hangs about his necke,  
Smiles in his face, and whispers in his eares,  
And when I come, he frownes, as who should say,  
Goe whither thou wilt seeing I haue *Ganeston*.

*Mor. se.* Is it not strange that he is thus bewitched?

*Mor. in.* Madame, retorne vnto the Court againe:  
That slye inueigling Frenchman weele exile,  
Or lose our liues: and yet ere that day come,  
The King shall lose his crowne for we haue power,  
And courage too to be reuenged at full.

*Bish.* But yet lift not your swords against the King.

*Lan.* No, but weele lift *Ganeston* from hence.

*War.* And warre must be the meanes, or hee stay still.

*Que.* Then let him stay, for rather then my Lord  
Shall be oppress'd with ciuill mutinies,  
I will endure a melancholly life,  
And let him frolicke with his Minion.

*Bish.* My Lords, to ease all this, but heare me speake,  
We and therest that are his Counsellors  
Will meete, and with a general consent,  
Confirm his banishment with our hands and seales.

*Lan.* What we confirme the King will frustrate.

*Mor. in.* Then may we lawfully reuolt from him.

*War.* But say my Lord, where shall this meeting be?

*Bish.* At the new Temple.

*Mor. in.* Content:

And in the meane time ile intreat you all,  
To crosse to Lambeth, and there stay with me.

*Lan.* Come then lets away.

*Mor. in.* Madame farewell.

*Que.* Farewell sweete Mortimer, and for my sake,  
Forbeare



of Edward the second.

Forbiddeth to leuie Armes against the King.

*Mor. in.* I, if words will serue if not, I must.

*Enter Gaucisson and the Earle of Kent.*

*Gauc.* Edmond the mighty Prince of Lancaster,  
That hath more Earledomes then an Asse can beare,  
And both the Mortimers, two goodly men,  
With Gyl of Warwicke the redoubted Knight,  
Are gone towards Lambeth, there let them remaine.

*Enter Nobles.*

*Lan.* Heere is the forme of Gaucissons exile:  
May it please your Lordship to subscribe your name.

*Bish.* Give me the Paper.

*Lan.* Quicke quicke my Lord:  
I long to write my name.

*War.* But I long more to see him banisht hence.

*Mor. in.* The name of Mortimer shall fright the King,  
Vnlesse he be declind from that base Refant.

*Enter the King and Gaucisson.*

*Edw.* What are you mou'd that Gaucisson sits heere?  
It is our pleasure, we will haue it so.

*Lan.* Your Grace doth well to place him by your side,  
For no where else then now Earle is so safe.

*Mor. se.* What man of noble birth can brook this sight?  
*Quam male conueniunt* And wonder to the vnderstand  
See what a scornfull look the Refant casts.

*Penb.* Can Kingly Lyons fowne on creeping Ants?

*War.* Ignoble Vassall that like Pharaon,  
Aspir'st vnto the guidance of the Sunne.

*Mor. in.* Their downfall is at hand, their forces down,  
We will not thus be fat'd and ouer-peer'd.

*Edw.* Lay hands on that Traytor Mortimer.

*Mor. se.* Lay hands on that Traytor Gaucisson.

*Kent.* Is this the duty that you owe your King?

*War.* We know our duties, let him know his Peeres.

*Edw.* Whither will you beare him, stay or yee shall die.

*Mor. se.* We are not traytors, therefore threaten not.

*Gau.* No, this is due to my Lord, but pay them home,  
Were I a King —



## The Tragedy

*Mor. in.* Thou Villaine, wherefore talkest thou of a king,  
That hardly art a Gentleman by birth?

*Edw.* Were he a Peasant being my Minion,  
Ile make the proud of you stoop to him.

*Lan.* My Lord you may not thus disparage vs.  
Away I say with hateful Gauestone.

*Mor. se.* And with the Earle of Kent that fauors him.

*Edw.* Nay then lay violent hands vpon your King,  
Here Mortimer, sit thou in Edwards throne,

Warwicke and Lancaster, weare you my Crowne,  
Was euer King thus ouer-rul'd as I?

*Lan.* Learne then to rule vs better and the realme.

*Mor. in.* What we haue done,  
Our heart blood shall maintaine.

*War.* Think you that we can brooke this vpstart pride?

*Edw.* Anger and wrathfull fury stops my speech.

*Bish.* Why are you mou'd, be patient my Lord,  
And see what we your Councillors haue done.

*Mor. in.* My Lords, now let vs all be resolute,  
And either haue our wils or lose our liues.

*Edw.* Meete you for this, proud ouer-daring Peeres,  
Ere my sweete Gaueston shall part from me,  
This Ile shall fleete vpon the Ocean,  
And wander to the vnfrequented Inde.

*Bish.* You know that I am Legate to the Pope,  
On your allegiance to the Sea of Rome,  
Subscribe as we haue done to his exile.

*Mor. in.* Curse him, if he refuse, and then may we  
Depose him and elect another King.

*Edw.* I there it goes, but yet I will not yeeld,  
Curse me, depose me, do the worst you can.

*Lan.* Then linger not my Lord but do it straight.

*Bish.* Remember how the Bishop was abus'd,  
Either banish him that was the cause thereof,  
Or I will presently discharge these Lords,  
Of duety and allegiance due to thee.

*Edw.* It bootes me not to threat, I must speake faier,  
The Legate of the Pope will be obeyd:

My



of Edward the second.

My Lord, ye shall be Chancelour of the Realme.  
Thou Lancaster, high Admirall of our Fleete,  
Yong Mortimer and his Vake shall be Earles,  
And you Lord Warwicke, President of the North,  
And thou of Wales, if this content you not,  
Make seuerall Kingdomes of this Monarchy,  
And share it equally amongst you all,  
So I may haue some nooke or corner left,  
To frolike with my dearest Gaueston.

*Bish.* Nothing shall alter vs, we are resolu'd.

*Lan.* Come, come, subscribe.

*Mor. in.* Why should you loue him,  
Whom the world hates so?

*Edw.* Because he loues me more then all the world:  
Ah none but rude and sauage minded men,  
Would seeke the ruine of my Gaueston,  
You that are noble borne should pittie him.

*War.* You that are princely borne should shake him off.  
For shame subscribe, and let the Lowne depart.

*Mor. se.* Vise him my Lord.

*Bish.* Are you content to banish him the Realme?

*Edw.* I see I must, and therefore am content,  
In stead of Inke ile write it with my teares.

*Mor. in.* The King is loue-leeke for his Minton.

*Edw.* Tis done, and now accursed hand fall off.

*Lan.* Giue it me, Ile haue it published in the streetes,

*Mor. in.* Ile see him presently dispatched away.

*Bish.* Now is my heart at ease.

*War.* And so is mine.

*Penb.* This will be good newes to the common fort.

*Mor. se.* Be it or no, he shall not linger heere.

*Exeunt Nobles.*

*Edw.* How fast they run to banish him I loue,  
They would not stirre, were it to do me good:  
Why should a King be subiect to a Priest?  
Proud Rome, that hatcheth such imperiall groomes,  
For these thy superstitious taper-lights,  
Wherewith thy Antichristian Churches blaze,

He



*The Tragedy*

Ile fire thy crazed buildings, and enforce  
The Papall Towers, to kisse the lowly ground,  
With slaughtered Priests may Tyber channell swell,  
And bankes raisd higher with their sepulchers,  
As for the Peeres that back the clergy thus,  
If I be King, not one of them shall liue.

*Enter Gaueston.*

*Gauc.* My Lord, I heare it whispered euery where  
That I am banish'd, and must flie the Land.

*Ed.* Tis true sweet *Gaueston*, oh were it were it false,  
The Legate of the Pope will haue it so.  
And thou must hence, or I shall be depos'd,  
But I will raigne to be reueng'd of them,  
And therefore sweet friend, take it patiently.  
Liue where thou wilt, ile send thee gold enough,  
And long thou shalt not stay, or if thou dost,  
Ile come to thee, my loue shall nere decline.

*Gauc.* Is all my hope turn'd to this hell of griefe.

*Edw.* Rend not my heart with thy too piercing words,  
Thou from this Land, I from my selfe am banisht.

*Gauc.* To go from hence, grieues not poore *Gaueston*,  
But to forsake you, in whole gracious lookes,  
The blessednesse of *Gaueston* remaines,  
For nowhere else seekes he felicity.

*Ed.* And only this torments my wretched soule,  
That whether I will or no thou must depart:  
Be Gouvernour of Ireland in my stead,  
And there abide till fortune call thee home.  
Here take my Picture, and let me weare thine,  
O might I keepe thee heere, as I do this,  
Happy were I, but now most miserable.

*Gauc.* Tis something to be pittied of a King.

*Edw.* Thou shalt not hence, ile bid thee *Gaueston*.

*Gauc.* I shall be found, and then twill grieue me more.

*Edw.* Kind words and mutuall talke makes our griefe  
greater.

Therefore with dumbe embracement let vs part,  
Stay *Gaueston*, I cannot leaue thee thus.

*Gauc.*



*of Edward the second.*

*Gauc.* For euery looke my Lord drops downe a teare,  
Seeing I must goe, do not renew my sorrow.

*Edw.* The time is little that thou hast to stay,  
And therefore giue me leaue to looke my fill,  
But come sweete friend, ile beare thee on thy way.

*Gauc.* The Peeres will frowne.

*Edw.* I passe not for their anger, come lets goe,  
O that we might as well returne as goe.

*Enter Edmond and Queene Isabell.*

*Qu.* Whither goes my Lord?

*Edw.* Fawne not on me french strumpet, get thee gone,

*Qu.* On whom but on my husband should I fawne?

*Gauc.* On *Mortimer*, with whom vngentle Queene,  
I say no more, iudge you the rest my Lord,

*Qu.* In saying this thou wrongst me *Gauceston*,  
Is not enough that thou corrupts my Lord,  
And art a Bawd to his affections,  
But thou must call mine honour thus in question?

*Gauc.* I meane not so, your Grace must pardon me.

*Edw.* Thou art too familiar with that *Mortimer*,  
And by thy meanes is *Gauceston* exil'd,  
But I would wish thee reconcile the Lords,  
Or thou shalt ne're be reconcil'd to me.

*Qu.* Your Highnesse knowes it lies not in my power.

*Edw.* Away then, touch me not, come *Gauceston*.

*Qu.* Villaine, tis thou that rob'st me of my Lord.

*Gau.* Madam, tis you that rob me of my Lord.

*Edw.* Speake not vnto her, let her droope and pine.

*Qu.* Wherein my Lord, haue I deseru'd these words?  
Witnesse the teares that *Isabella* sheds,  
Witnesse this heart, that sighing for thee breakes,  
How deere my Lord is to poore *Isabell*.

*Edw.* And witnesse Heauen how deere thou art to me.  
There weepe: for till my *Gauceston* be repeal'd,  
Assure thy selfe thou comst not in my sight.

*Exeunt Edward and Gauceston.*

*Qu.* O miserable and distressed Queene,  
Would when I left sweete France and was imbark't,  
That



## The Tragedy

That charming *Circes* walking on the waues,  
Had chang'd my shape, or that the marriage day,  
The cup of *Hymen* had beene full of poyson,  
Or with those armes that twin'd about my necke,  
I had beene stifled, and not liu'd to see,  
The King my Lord thus to abandon me:  
Like frantike *Iuno* will I fill the earth,  
With gassly murmure of my sighs and cries,  
For neuer doted *Ioue* on *Ganimed*,  
So much as he on cursed *Gaueston*,  
But that will more exasperate his wrath,  
I must entreat him, I must speake him faire,  
And be a meanes to call home *Gaueston*:  
And yet heele euer dote on *Gaueston*,  
And so am I for euer miserable.

*Enter the Nobles to the Queene.*

*Lanc.* Looke where the sister of the King of France,  
Sits wringing of her hands and beats her brest.

*War.* The King I feare hath ill intreated her.

*Pen.* Hard is the heart that iniures such a saint.

*Mor. in.* I know tis long of *Gaueston* she weepes.

*Mor. se.* Why? he is gone.

*Mor. in.* Madame, how fares your Grace?

*Qu.* Ah *Mortimer*! now breakes the Kings hate forth.  
And he confesseth that he loues me not.

*Mor. in.* Cry quittance Madame then, & loue not him.

*Qu.* No rather will I dye a thousand deaths,  
And yet I loue in vaine, heele nere loue me.

*Lanc.* Feare ye not Madame, now his minions gone,  
His wanton humour will be quickly left.

*Qu.* Oh neuer Lancaster! I am inioyn'd,  
To sue vnto you all for his repeale:

This wils my Lord, and this must I performe,  
Or else be banisht from his Highnesse presence.

*Lanc.* For his repeale, Madame, he comes not backe,  
Vntlesse the sea cast vp his ship-wrack't body.

*War.* And to behold so sweete a sight as that,  
Ther's none here, but would runne his horse to death.

*Mor.*



*of Edward the second.*

*Mor. in.* But Madame, would you haue vs call him

*Qu.* I *Mortimer*, for till he be restor'd, (home?  
The angry King hath banisht me the Court,  
And therefore as thou lou'st and tendrest me,  
Be thou my Aduocate vnto these Peeres.

*Mor. in.* What would you haue me plead for *Gaueston*?

*Mor. se.* Plead for him that will, I am resolu'd.

*Lanc.* And so am I my Lord, dissuade the Queene.

*Que.* O *Lancaster*, let him dissuade the King,  
For tis against my will he should returne.

*War.* Then speake not for him, let the Pefant goe.

*Qu.* Tis for my selfe I speake, and not for him.

*Pen.* No speaking will preuaile, and therefore cease.

*Mor. in.* Faire Queene, forbear to angle for the fish,  
Which being caught, strikes him that takes it dead,  
I meane that vile *Torpedo*, *Gaueston*,  
That now I hope flotes on the Irish Seas,

*Qu.* Sweete *Mortimer* sit downe by me awhile,  
And I will tell thee reasons of such waight,  
As thou wilt soone subscribe to his repeale.

*Mor. in.* It is impossible, but speake your mind.

*Que.* Then thus, but none shall heare it but our selues.

*Lan.* My Lords albeit the Queene winne *Mortimer*,  
Will you be resolute and hold with me?

*Mor. se.* Not I against my Nephew.

*Pen.* Feare not, the Queenes words cannot alter him.

*War.* No, do but marke how earnestly she pleads.

*Lan.* And see how coldly his lookes make deniall.

*War.* She smiles, now for my life his mind is chang'd.

*Lan.* Ile rather lose his friendship I, then grant.

*Mor. in.* Well of necessity it must be so,  
My Lords that I abhorre base *Gaueston*,  
I hope your honours make no question,  
And therefore though I plead for his repeale,  
Tis not for his sake but for our auaille:  
Nay for the realmes behoofe and for the Kings.

*Lan.* Fie *Mortimer*, dishonour not thy selfe,  
Can this be true, twas good to banish him?



## The Tragedy

And is this true, to call him home againe?

Such reasons make white black, and darke night day,

*Mor. in.* My Lord of *Lancaster* mark the respect.

*Lan.* In no respect can contraries be true.

*Qu.* Yet good my Lord heare what he can alledge.

*War.* All that he speakes is nothing, we are resolu'd.

*Mor. in.* Doe you not wish that *Gaueston* were dead?

*Pem.* I would he were. (speake.

*Mor. in.* Why then my Lord, giue mee but leaue to

*Mor. se.* But Nephew do not play the Sophister.

*Mor. in.* This which I vrge is of a burning zeale  
To mend the King, and do our Country good:

Know you not *Gaueston* hath store of Gold,

Which may in Ireland purchase him such friends,

As he will front the mightiest of vs all,

And whereas he shall liue and be belou'd,

Tis hard for vs to worke his ouerthrow.

*War.* Marke you but that my Lord of *Lancaster*.

*Mor. in.* But were he here detested as he is,

How easily might some base slaue be suborn'd,

To greete his Lordship with a Poniard,

And none so much as blame the murther,

But rather praise him for that braue attempt.

And in the Chronicle, enrowle his name,

For purging of the Realme of such a plague.

*Pem.* He saith true.

*Lan.* I, but how chance this was not done before?

*Mor. in.* Because my Lords, it was not thought vpon:  
Nay more, when he shall know it lies in vs,

To banish him, and then to call him home,

Twill make him vaile the top-flag of his pride,

And feare to offend the meanest noble man.

*Mor. se.* But how if he do not Nephew?

*Mor. in.* Then may we with some colour rise in armes,  
For howsoeuer we haue borne it out,

Tis treason to be vp against the King,

So shall we haue the people on our side,

Which for his fathers sake leane to the King.

But



*of Edward the second.*

But cannot brooke a night growne Muskrump,  
Such a one as my Lord of Cornewall is,  
Should beare vs downe of the nobility,  
And when the Commons and the Nobles ioyne,  
Tis not the King can buckler *Gaueston*.  
Weele pull him from the strongest hold he hath,  
My Lords, if to performe this I be slacke,  
Thinke me as base a Groome as *Gaueston*.

*Lan.* On that condition *Lancaster* will grant.

*War.* And so will *Penbrooke* and I.

*Mor. se.* And I.

*Mor. in.* In this I count me highly gratified,  
And *Mortimer*, will rest at your command,

*Qu.* And when this fauour *Isabell* forgets,  
Then let her liue abandon'd and forlorne,  
But see in happy time my Lord the King,  
Hauing brought the Earle of Cornewall on his way,  
Is newes return'd, this newes will glad him much,  
Yet not so much as me, I loue him more,  
Then he can *Gaueston*, would he lou'd me  
But halfe so much, then were I treble blest.

*Enter King Edward mourning.*

*Edw.* Hees gone, and for his absence thus I mourne,  
Did neuer sorrow goe so neere my heart,  
As doth the want of my sweete *Gaueston*,  
And could my Crownes reuenew bring him backe,  
I would freely giue it to his enemies,  
And thinke I gain'd, hauing bought so deere a friend.

*Qu.* Harke how he harpes vpon his Minion.

*Edw.* My heart is as an Anuill vnto sorrow,  
Which beates vpon it like the Cyclops hammers,  
And with the noise turnes vp my giddy braine,  
And makes me franticke for my *Gaueston*:  
Ah had some bloudlesse fury rose from Hell,  
And with my Kingly Scepter strooke me dead,  
When I was forst to leaue my *Gaueston*.

*Lan.* *Diablo*, what passions call you these.

*Qu.* My gracious Lord I come to bring you newes.



*The Tragedy*

*Edw.* That you haue parled with your *Mortimer*.

*Qu.* That *Ganeſton* my Lord ſhall be repeald.

*Edw.* Repeald, the newes is too ſweet to be true.

*Qu.* But will you loue me if you find it ſo?

*Edw.* If it be ſo, what will not *Edward* do?

*Qu.* For *Ganeſton*, but not for *Iſabell*.

*Edw.* For thee faire Queene, if thou loueſt *Ganeſton*,  
Ile hang a golden tongue about my necke,  
Seeing thou haſt pleaded with ſo good ſucceſſe.

*Qu.* No other Iewels hang about my necke  
Then theſe my Lord, nor let me haue more wealth,  
Then I may fetch from this rich treaſury:  
O how a kiſſe reuiues poore *Iſabell*.

*Edw.* Once more receiue my hand, and let this be,  
A ſecond marriage twixt thy ſelfe and me.

*Qu.* And may it proue more happy then the firſt,  
My gentle Lord, beſpeake theſe Nobles faire,  
That waite attendance for a gracious looke,  
And on their knees ſalute your Maieſty.

*Edw.* Couragious *Lancaster*, embrace thy King,  
And as groſſe vapours periſh by the ſunne,  
Euen ſo let hatred with thy ſoueraignes ſmile,  
Liue thou with me as my companion.

*Lanc.* This ſalutation ouer-ioyes my heart.

*Edw.* Warwick ſhall be my chiefeſt Counſellour:  
Theſe ſiluer haires will more adorne my Court,  
Then gaudie lilkes, or rich imbroyery,  
Chide me ſweete Warwicke, if I goe aſtray.

*War.* Slay me my Lord, when I offend your Grace.

*Edw.* In ſolemne triumphs, and in publike ſhowes  
*Penbrooke* ſhall beare the Sword before the King.

*Pen.* And with this ſword *Penbrooke* will fight for you.

*Edw.* But wherefore walkes yong *Mortimer* aſide?  
Be thou commander of our royall ſcete,  
Or if that lofty office like thee not,  
I make thee here Lord Marshall of the realme.

*Mor. is.* My Lord, ile Marshall all your enemies,  
As England ſhall be quiet, and you ſafe.

*Edw.*



*of Edward the second.*

*Edw.* And as for you Lord *Mortimer* of *Chirke*,  
Whose great atchiuements in our forraigne warre  
Deserues no common place nor meane reward:  
Be you the Generall of the leuied troopes,  
That now are ready to assaile the Scots.

*Mor. se.* In this your Grace hath highly honoured me.  
For with my nature warre doth best agree.

*Qu.* Now is the King of England rich and strong,  
Hauing the loue of his renowned Peeres.

*Edw.* I *Isabell*, nere was my heart so light,  
Clarke of the Crowne, direct our warrant forth,  
For *Gauceston* to Ireland: *Beaumont* flye  
As fast as *Iris*, or *Iones Mercury*.

*Beam.* It shall be done my gracious Lord.

*Edw.* Lord *Mortimer* we leaue you to your charge:  
Now let vs in and feast it royally:  
Against our friend the Earle of *Cornewall* comes,  
Weele haue a generall Tilt and Turnament,  
And then his marriage shall be solemniz'd,  
For wrote you not that I haue made him sure  
Vnto our Cosin, the Earle of *Glosters* heire.

*Lan.* Such newes we heare my Lord.

*Edw.* That day, if not for him, yet for my sake,  
Who in triumph will be challenger?  
Spare for no cost, we will requite your loue.

*War.* In this, or ought your highnes shall command vs.

*Edw.* Thankes gentle *Warwicke*, come lets in and reuell.

*Manent Mortimers.*

*Exeunt.*

*Mor. se.* Nephew, I must to Scotland, thou stayest here.  
Leaue now to oppose thy selfe against the King,  
Thou seest by nature he is mild and calme,  
And seeing his mind so dotes on *Gauceston*,  
Let him without controlement haue his will.  
The mightiest Kings haue had their Minions,  
Great *Alexander* loued *Epehestion*,  
The conquering *Hector* did for *Hilas* weepe,  
And for *Patroclus* sterne *Achilles* droopt:  
And not Kings only, but the wisest men.

The



*The Tragedy*

The Romane Tully loued Octauins,  
Graue Socrates, wild Alcibiades:

Then let his grace whose youth is flexible,  
And promifeth as much as we can wish,  
Freely enioy that vaine light-headed Earle,  
For riper yeeres will weane him from fuch toyes.

*Mor. in.* Vncle his wanton humor grieues not me,  
But this I fcorne, that one fo basely borne  
Should by his Soueraignes fauour grow fo pert,  
And riot it with the treasure of the Realme,  
While Souldiers mutiny for want of pay.  
He weares a Lords reuenew on his backe,  
And *Midas* like he iets it in the Court,  
With base outlandish Cullions at his heeles,  
VVhose proud fantastlike Liueries makes fuch shew,  
As if that *Proteus* God of shapes appear'd.  
I haue not feene a dapper Iack fo briske,  
He weares a short Italian hooded Cloake,  
Larded with Pearle, and in his tuscan cap  
A Iewell of more value then the Crowne,  
VVhiles others walke below, the King and he,  
From out a window laugh at fuch as we,  
And flout our traine, and iest at our Attire:  
Vncle tis this that makes me impatient.

*Mor. se.* But Nephew, now you see the King is chang'd.

*Mor. in.* Then fo am I, and liue to do him feruice,  
But whiles I haue a sword, a hand, a heart,  
I will not yeeld to any fuch vpstart.

You know my minde, come Vncle lets away. *exeunt.*

*Enter Spencer and Balducke.* (dead

*Bald. Spencer,* seeing that our Lord th' earle of Glosters  
Which of the Nobles dost thou meane to ferue?

*Spen.* Not *Mortimer* nor any of his fide,  
Because the King and he are enemies,  
*Balducke* : learne this of me, a factious Lord  
Shall hardly doe himfelfe good, much lesse vs,  
But he that hath the fauour of a King,  
May with one word aduance vs while we liue:

The



The liberall Earle of Cornewall is the man,  
On whose good fortune *Spencers* hope depends.

*Bald.* What, meane you then to be his follower?

*Spen.* No, his Companion, for he loues me well,  
And would haue once prefer'd me to the King.

*Bald.* But he is banisht, theres small hope of him.

*Spen.* I for a while, but *Balducke* marke the end,  
A friend of mine told me in secrecy,  
That hees repeal'd, and sent for backe againe,  
And euen now, a Poast came from the Court,  
With Letters to our Lady from the King,  
And as she read she smild, which makes me thinke,  
It is about her Louer *Ganeston*.

*Bald.* Tis like enough, for since he was exile,  
She neither walkes abroad, nor comes in sight:  
But I had thought the match had beene broke off,  
And that his banishment had chang'd her minde.

*Spen.* Our Ladies first loue is not wauering,  
My life for thine she will haue *Ganeston*.

*Bald.* Then hope I by her meanes to be prefer'd,  
Hauing read vnto her since she was a child.

*Spen.* Then *Balducke* you must cast the Scholler off,  
And learne to court it like a Gentleman,  
Tis not a blacke Coat and a little Band,  
A Veluet cap'd Cloake fac'd before with Serge,  
And smelling to a Nosegay all the day,  
Or holding of a Napkin in your hand,  
Or saying a long Grace at a Tables end,  
Or making low legs to a noble man,  
Or looking downward, with your eye-lids close,  
And saying, truely ant may please your honour,  
Can get you any fauour with great men,  
You must be proud, bold, pleasant, resolute,  
And now and then stab, as occasion serues.

*Bald.* *Spencer* thou know'st I hate such toyes,  
And vse them but as meere Hypocrisie.  
Mine old Lord whiles he liu'd was so precise,  
That he would take exceptions at my Buttons,



*The Tragedy*

And being like pins heads, blame me for the bignesse,  
Which made me Curate-like in mine attire,  
Though inwardly licentious enough,  
And apt for any kind of villany.

I am none of these common Pedants I,  
That cannot speake without *propterea quod*.

*Spen.* But one of those that saith *quando quidem*,  
And hath a speciall gift to forme a verbe.

*Bald.* Leave off this iesting, here my Lady comes.

*Enter the Lady.*

*Lady.* The grieffe for his exile was not so much,  
As is the ioy of his returning home,  
This Letter came from my sweete *Gaueston*,  
What needst thou loue thus to excuse thy selfe?  
I know thou couldst not come and visit me,  
I will not long be from thee though I dye:  
This argues the entire loue of my Lord,  
When I forsake thee, death seaze on my heart,  
But stay thee here where *Gaueston* shall sleepe.  
Now to the Letter of my Lord the King,  
He wills me to repaire vnto the Court,  
And meete my *Gaueston*: why do I stay,  
Seeing that he talks thus of my marriage day?  
Whose there, *Balducke*?

See that my Coach be ready, I must hence.

*Bald.* It shall be done Madam.

*Exit.*

*Lad.* And meete me at the Parke pale presently:

*Spencer*, stay you and beare me company,  
For I haue ioyfull newes to tell thee of,  
My Lord of *Cornwall* is comming ouer,  
And will be at the Court as soone as we.

*Spe.* I knew the King would haue him home again.

*Lady.* If all things sort out, as I hope they will,  
Thy seruice *Spencer* shall be thought vpon.

*Spen.* I humbly thanke your Ladiship.

*Lad.* Come leade the way, I long till I am there.

*Enter Edward, the Queene, Lancaster, Mortimer, War-  
wicke, Pembroke, Kent, attendants.*

*Edw.*



of Edward the second.

*Edw.* The winde is good, I wonder why he stayes,  
I feare me he is wrackt vpon the Sea.

*Qu.* Looke *Lancaster* how passionate he is,  
And still his mind runnes on his Minion.

*Lan.* My Lord.

*Edw.* How now, what newes? is *Ganeſton* arriu'd?

*Mor. in.* Nothing but *Ganeſton*, what means your Grace?  
You haue matters of more waight to thinke vpon,  
The King of France ſets foote in Normandy.

*Edw.* A trifle, weele expell him when we pleaſe:  
But tell me *Mortimer*, whats thy deuice,  
Againſt the ſtately triumph we decreed? (linge

*Mor. in.* A homely one my Lord, not worth the tel-

*Edw.* Prey thee let me know it.

*Mor. in.* But ſeeing you are ſo deſirous, thus it is:  
A lofty Cedar tree faire flourishing,  
On whoſe top-branches kingly Eagles pearch,  
And by the barke a canker creepes me vp,  
And gets vnto the higheſt bough of all,  
The Motto: *Æque tandem*.

*Edw.* And what is yours my Lord of *Lancaster*?

*Lan.* My Lord, mines more obſcure then *Mortimers*.  
*Plinie* reports, there is a flying Fiſh,  
Which all the other Fiſhes deadly hate,  
And therefore being purſu'd it takes the aire:  
No ſooner is it vp, but ther's a Fowle  
That ſeizeth it, this Fiſh my Lord I beare,  
The Motto this: *Vndique mors eſt*.

*Edw.* Proud *Mortimer*, vngentle *Lancaster*?  
Is this the loue you beare your Soueraigne?  
Is this the Fruit your reconcilment beares?  
Can you in words make ſhew of amity,  
And in your ſheild display your rancorous minds?  
What call you this but priuate libelling,  
Againſt the Earle of *Cornwall* and my brother?

*Qu.* Sweete husband be content, they all loue you.

*Edw.* They loue me not that hate my *Ganeſton*,  
I am that Cedar, ſhake me not too much,



## The Tragedy

And you the Eagles, fore you nere so high,  
I haue the Gresses that will pull you downe,  
And *Aque tandem* shall that canker cry,  
Vnto the proudest Peere of Brittainy:  
Though thou compar'st him to a flying Fish,  
And threatnest death whether he rise or fall,  
Tis not the hugest monster of the sea,  
Nor foulest Harpie that shall swallow him.

*Mor. in.* If in his absence thus he fauors him,  
What will he doe when as he shall be present?

*Lan.* That shal we see, looke where his Lordship comes.

*Enter Gaueston.* (thy friend,

*Edw.* My Gaueston, welcome to *Tinmouth*, welcome to  
Thy absence made me droope and pine away,  
For as the Louers of faire *Danae*,  
When she was lockt vp in a brazen Tower,  
Desir'd her more, and waxt outrageous,  
So did it fare with me: and now thy sight  
Is sweeter farre, then was thy parting hence,  
Bitter and irkesome to my sobbing heart.

*Ga.* Sweet Lord & King, your speech preuenteth mine,  
Yet haue I words left to expresse my ioy:  
The Shepheard nipt with biting winters rage,  
Frolicks not more to see the painted Spring,  
Then I do to behold your Maiesty.

*Edw.* Will none of you salute my Gaueston?

*Lan.* Salute him? yes, welcome Lord Chamberlaine.

*Mor. in.* Welcome is the good Earle of Cornewall.

*War.* Welcome Lord Gouvernour of the Ile of Man.

*Pen.* Welcome Master Secretary.

*Edw.* Brother do you heare them?

*Edw.* Still will these Earles and Barons vse me thus?

*Gaue.* My Lord I cannot brooke these iniuries,

*Que.* Aye me poore soule when these begin to iarre.

*Edw.* Returne it to their throats, Ile be thy warrant.

*Gaue.* Base Leaden Earles that glory in your birth,  
Goe sit at home and eate your Tenants Beefe,  
And come not here to scoffe at Gaueston,

Whose



*of Edward the second.*

Whose mounting thoughts did neuer creepe so low,  
As to bestow a looke on such as you.

*Lanc.* Yet I disdaine not to do this for you.

*Edw.* Treason, treason: wher's the traytor? (der him.

*Pen.* Here here king, conuay hence *Gaueston*? thei'l mur-

*Gauc.* The life of thee shall salue this foule disgrace.

*Mor. in.* Villain thy life vnlesse I misse mine aime.

*Que.* Ah furious *Mortimer*, what hast thou done?

*Mor. in.* No more then I would answere were he slaine.

*Edw.* Yes more then thou canst answer though he liue,  
Deare shall you both abide this riotous deed:

Out of my presence, come not neere the Court.

*Mor. in.* Ile not be bard the Court for *Gaueston*.

*Lan.* Weele hale him by the eares vnto the blocke.

*Edw.* Looke to your owne heads, his is sure enough.

*War.* Look to your own Crowne, if you back him thus.

*Edm. Warwicke*, these words do ill beseme thy yeeres.

*Edw.* Nay all of them conspire to crosse me thus,  
But if I liue, ile tread vpon their heads,  
That thinke with high lookes thus to tread me downe,  
Come *Edmond* lets away and leuy men,  
Tis warre that must abate these Barons pride.

*Exit the King.*

*War.* Lets to our Castles, for the King is mou'd.

*Mor. in.* Mou'd may he be, and perish in his wrath.

*Lan.* Cofin it is no dealing with him now,  
He meanes to make vs slooppe by force of armes,  
And therefore let vs ioyntly heere protest,  
To prosecute that *Gaueston* to the death.

*Mor. in.* By heauen the abiect Villaine shall not liue.

*War.* Ile haue his bloud, or dye in seeking it.

*Pen.* The like oath *Penbrooke* takes.

*Lan.* And so doth *Lancaster*:

Now send our Heralds to defie the King,  
And make the people sweare to put him downe.

*Enter a Post.*

*Mor. in.* Letters from whence?

*Messen.* From Scotland my Lord.



## *The Tragedy*

*Lan.* Why how now Cosin, how fares all our friends?

*Mor. in.* My Vncle taken prisoner by the Scots.

*La.* Weele haue him ransom'd man, be of good cheere.

*Mor. in.* They rate his ransome at five thousand pound,  
Wo should detract the money but the King,  
Seeing he is taken Prisoner in his warres?  
Ile to the King.

*Lan.* Doe Cosin, and Ile beare thee company,

*War.* Meane time my Lord of *Pembroke* and my selfe,  
Will to New-castle heere, and gather head.

*Mor. in.* About it then, and we will follow you.

*Lan.* Be resolute and full of secrecy.

*War.* I warrant you.

*Mor. in.* Cosin, and if he will not ransom him,  
Ile thunder such a peale into his eares,  
As neuer subiect did vnto his King.

*Lan.* Content, ile beare my part, holla whose there?

*Mor. in.* I marry, such a Guard as this doth well.

*Lan.* Lead on the way.

*Guard.* Whither will your Lordships?

*Mor. in.* Whither else but to the King.

*Guard.* His Highnesse is dispos'd to be alone.

*Lan.* Why, so he may, but we will speake to him.

*Guard.* You may not in my Lord.

*Mor. in.* May we not?

*Edm.* How now, what noise is this?  
Who haue we there, ist you?

*Mor. in.* Nay, stay my Lord, I come to bring you newes,  
Mine Vncle taken Prisoner by the Scots.

*Edm.* Then ransom him.

*Lan.* Twas in your warres, you should ransom him.

*Mor. in.* And you shall ransom him, or else.

*Edm.* What *Mortimer*, you will not threaten him?

*Edm.* Quiet your selfe, you shall haue the broad seale,  
To gather for him throughout the Realme.

*Lan.* Your Minion *Gaueston* hath taught you this.

*Mor. in.* My Lord, the Family of the *Mortimers*  
Are not so poore, but would they sell their Land,  
Twould



of Edward the second.

Twould leuie men enough to anger you,  
We neuer beg but vse such prayers as these.

*Edw.* Shall I still be haunted thus?

*Mor.* Nay, now you are here alone, ile speak my mind.

*Lan.* And so will I, and then my Lord farewell.

*Mor.* The idle Triumphs, Maskes, lasciuious shewes,  
And prodigall gifts bestowed on *Gaueston*,  
Haue drawne thy treasury dry, and made thee weake,  
The murmuring Commons ouer-stretched hath.

*Lan.* Looke for Rebellion, looke to be depos'd,  
Thy Garrisons are beaten out of France,  
And lame and poore, lye groning at the Gates,  
The wild *Oneye*, with swarmes of Irish Kernes,  
Liues vncontrol'd within the English pale,  
Vnto the walls of Yorke the Scots made rode,  
And vnresisted draue away rich spoyles.

*Mor. in.* The hauty Dane commands the narrow Seas,  
While in the Harbor ride thy Ships vnrig'd.

*Lan.* What forraine Prince sends thee Embassadors?

*Mor. in.* Who loues thee? but a sort of flatterers.

*Lan.* Thy gentle Queene, sole sister to *Valoys*,  
Complaines, that thou hast left her all forlorne.

*Mor. in.* Thy Court is naked, being bereft of those,  
That makes a King seeme glorious to the world,  
I meane the Peeres, whom thou shouldst dearly loue:  
Libels are cast against thee in the streete,  
Ballads and rimes made of thy ouerthrow.

*Lan.* The Northren borderers seeing their houses burnt  
Their wiues and Children slaine, runne vp and downe  
Cursing the name of thee and *Gaueston*.

*Mor.* When wert thou in the field with banners spread?  
But once, and then thy Souldiers marcht like Players,  
With garish robes, not armour; and thy selfe  
Bedaub'd with Gold, rode laughing at the rest,  
Nodding and shaking of thy spangled crest,  
Where womens fauours hung like labels downe.

*Lan.* And therefore came it, that the fleeing Scots,  
To Englands high disgrace, haue made this ligge,

Maids



## The Tragedy

Maids of England, fore may you mourne,  
For your Lemons you haue lost, at Bannocks borne,  
With a heaue and a ho,  
What weaneth the King of England,  
So soone to haue wonne Scotland,  
With a rom below.

*Mor. Wigmore* shall flye to set my Vncle free. (more,

*Lan.* And when tis gone, our swords shall purchase  
If you be mou'd reuenge it if you can. (Nobles.  
Looke next to see vs with our Ensignes spread. *Exeunt*

*Edw.* My swelling heart with very anger breakes,  
How oft haue I beene baited by these Peeres?  
And dare not be reueng'd, for their power is great:  
Yet, shall the crowing of these Cockerels,  
Affright a Lyon? *Edward* vnfold thy pawes  
And let their liues bloud slake thy furies hunger:  
If I be cruell and grow tyrannous,  
Now let them thanke themselves, and rue too late.

*Kent.* My Lord, I see your loue to *Gaueston*  
Will be the ruine of the realme and you,  
For now the wrathfull Nobles threaten warres,  
And therefore Brother banish him for euer.

*Edw.* Art thou an enemy to my *Gaueston*?

*Kent.* I, and it grieues me that I fauoured him.

*Edw.* Traitor be gone, whinethou with *Mortimer*. 

*Kent.* So will I, rather then with *Gaueston*.

*Edw.* Out of my sight and trouble me no more.

*Ke.* No maruell though thou scornethy noble Peeres,  
When I thy Brother am reiected thus. *Exit.*

*Edw.* Away poore *Gaueston*, that hast no friend but me,  
Do what they can, wee le liue in *Tinmoth* heere,  
And so I walke with him about the walls,  
What care I though the Earles begirt vs round?  
Heere comes she thats cause of all these iarres.

*Enter the Queene, three Ladies, Balducke,  
and Spencer.*

*Qu.* My Lord tis thought the Earles are vp in armes,

*Edw.* I, and tis likewise thought you fauour him.

*Qu.*



*of Edward the second.*

*Qu.* Thus do you still suspect me without cause.

*La.* Sweete Vncle speake more kindly to the Queene.

*Gau.* My Lord, dissemble with her, speake her faire.

*Edw.* Pardon me sweete, I forgot my selfe.

*Qu.* Your pardon is quickly got of *Isabell*.

*Edw.* The yonger *Mortimer* is growne so braue,  
That to my face he threatens ciuill warres.

*Gau.* Why do you not commit him to the Tower?

*Edw.* I dare not, for the people loue him well.

*Gau.* Why then weele haue him priuily made away.

*Edw.* Would Lancaster and he had both carroust  
A bowle of poyson to each others health:  
But let them goe, and tell me what are these.

*La.* Two of my fathers seruants whilst he liu'd,  
Mai't please your Grace to entertainethem now.

*Edw.* Tell me, where wast thou borne?  
What is thine armes?

*Bald.* My name is *Balducke*, and my Gentry  
I fetch from Oxford, not from Heraldry.

*Edw.* The fitter art thou *Balduck* for my turne,  
Waite on me, and Ile see thou shalt not want.

*Bald.* I humbly thanke your Maiesty.

*Edw.* Knowest thou him *Gaueston*?

*Gau.* I my Lord, his name is *Spencer*, he is well allied,  
For my sake let him waite vpon your Grace,  
Scarce shall you find a man of more desert.

*Edw.* Then *Spencer* waite vpon me for his sake,  
Ile grace thee with a higher stile ere long.

*Spen.* No greater titles happen vnto me,  
Then to be fauoured of your Maiesty.

*Edw.* Cosin, this day, shall be your marriage feast,  
And *Gaueston*, thinke that I loue thee well,  
Towed thee to our Neece, the only Heire  
Vnto the Earle of Gloster late deceased.

*Gau.* I know my Lord, many will stomacke me,  
But I respect neither their loue nor hate.

*Edw.* The head-strong Barons shall not limit me,  
He that I list to fauour shall be great:

E

Come



## *The Tragedy*

**Come lets away, and when the marriage ends,  
Haue at the Rebels, and their complices.** *Exeunt omnes.*

*Enter Lancaster, Mortimer, Warwicke, Penbrooke, Kent.*

*Kent.* My Lords, of loue to this our native Land,  
I come to ioyne with you and leaue the King,  
And in your quarrell and the Realmes behoofe,  
Will be the first that shall aduenture life.

*Lan.* I feare me you are sent of pollicy,  
To vndermine vs with a shew of loue.

*War.* He is your Brother, therefore haue we cause  
To cast the worst, and doubt of your revolt.

*Edm.* Mine honour should be hostage of my truth.  
If that will not suffice farewell my Lords.

*Mor. in.* Stay Edmond, neuer was Plantagenet  
False of his word, and therefore trust we thee.

*Pen.* But whats the reason you should leaue him now?

*Kent.* I haue enform'd the Earle of Lancaster.

*Lan.* And it sufficeth: now my Lords know this,  
That *Gaueston* is secretly arriu'd,  
And here in *Tinmoth* frolickes with the King,  
Let vs with these our followers scale the walles,  
And sodainely surprize them vnawares.

*Mor. in.* Ile giue the onset.

*War.* And ile follow thee.

*Mor. in.* This tottered Ensigne of my Ancestors,  
Which swept the desert shore of that dead sea,  
Whereof we got the name of *Mortimer*,  
Will I aduance vpon this Castle walls,  
Drums strike alarum, raise them from their sport,  
And ring aloud the knell of *Gaueston*.

*Lan.* None be so hardy as to touch the King,  
But neither spare you *Gaueston* nor his friends. *Exeunt.*

*Enter the King and Spencer, to them Gaueston &c.*

*Edw.* O tell me *Spencer* where is *Gaueston*?

*Spen.* I feare me he is slaine my gracious Lord.

*Edw.* No, here he comes, now let them spoyle and kill:  
Flie, flie my Lords, the Earles haue got the hold,  
Take shipping and away to Scarborough,

*Spen.*



*of Edward the second.*

*Spencer* and I will post away by Land.

*Gauc.* O stay my Lord, they will not iniure you.

*Edw.* I will not trust them, *Gaueston* away.

*Gauc.* Farewell my Lord.

*Edw.* Lady, farewell.

*Lady.* Farewell sweete Vncle till we meete againe.

*Edw.* Farewell sweete *Gaueston*, and farewell Neece.

*Que.* No farewell to poore *Isabell*, thy Queene?

*Edw.* Yes yes, for *Mortimer* your Louers sake.

*Exeunt omnes, manet Isabella.*

*Que.* Heauens can witnesse I loue none but you,  
From my imbracements thus he breakes away,  
O that mine armes could close this Ile about,  
That I might pull him to me where I would,  
Or that these teares that driffell from mine eyes,  
Had power to mollifie his stony heart,  
That when I had him we might neuer part.

*Enter the Barons alarums.*

*Lan.* I wonder how he scapt.

*Mor. in.* Whose this, the Queene?

*Que.* I *Mortimer*, the miserable Queene,  
Whose pining heart her inward sighs haue blasted,  
And body with continuall mourning wasted:  
These hands are tir'd, with hailing of my Lord  
From *Gaueston*, from wicked *Gaueston*,  
And all in vaine, for when I speake him faire,  
He turnes away, and smiles vpon his Minion.

*Mor. in.* Cease to lament, and tell vs wher's the King?

*Qu.* What would you with the King? ist him you seeke?

*Lan.* No Madame, but that cursed *Gaueston*,  
Farre be it from the thought of *Lancaster*,  
To offer violence to his Soueraigne,  
We would but rid the Realme of *Gaueston*,  
Tell vs where he remaines, and he shall dye.

*Qu.* Hees gone by water vnto *Scarborough*,  
Pursue him quickly, and he cannot scape,  
The King hath left him, and his traine is small.

*War.* Foreslow no time, sweete *Lancaster* lets march.



## The Tragedy

*Mor.* How comes it that the King and he is parted?

*Qu.* That this your army going severall wayes,  
Might be of lesser force, and with the power  
That he intendeth presently to raise,  
Be easily suppress: therefore be gone.

*Mor.* Heere in the Riuer rides a Flemmish Hoy,  
Lets all aboard, and follow him amaine.

*Lan.* The wind that beares him hence will fill our sails,  
Come, come aboard, tis but an houre saying.

*Mor.* Madame stay you within this Castle here.

*Qu.* No *Mortimer*, Ile to my Lord the King.

*Mor.* Nay, rather saile with vs to Scarborough.

*Qu.* You know the King is so suspicious,  
As if he heare, I haue but talk't with you,  
Mine Honour will be cal'd in question,  
And therefore gentle *Mortimer* be gone.

*Mor.* Madam, I cannot stay to answer you,  
But thinke of *Mortimer* as he deserues.

*Qu.* So well hast thou deseru'd sweete *Mortimer*,  
As *Isabel* could liue with thee for euer,  
In vaine I looke for loue at *Edwards* hand,  
Whose eyes are fixt on none but *Gaueston*:  
Yet once more Ile importune him with prayer,  
If he be strange and not regard my words,  
My sonne and I will ouer into France,  
And to the King my Brother there complaine,  
How *Gaueston* hath rob'd me of his loue:  
But yet I hope my sorrowes will haue end,  
And *Gaueston* this blessed day be slaine.

*Exeunt.*

*Enter Gaueston, pursued.*

*Gaue.* Yet lusty Lords I haue escap'd your hands,  
Your threats, your Larms, and your hot pursuits,  
And though diuorced from King *Edwards* eyes,  
Yet liueth *Pierce* of *Gaueston* vn surpriz'd,  
Breathing, in hope (*malgrado* all your beards,  
That muster Rebels thus against your King)  
To see his royall Soueraigne once againe.

*Enter the Nobles.*

*War.*



*of Edward the second.*

*War.* Vpon him Souldiers, take away his weapons.

*Mor. in.* Thou proud disturber of thy countries peace,  
Corrupter of thy King, cause of these broiles,  
Base flatterer, yeeld, and were it not for shame,  
Shame and dishonour to a Souldiers name,  
Vpon my weapons point heere shouldst thou fall,  
And welter in thy gore.

*Lan.* Monster of men **[** That like the Greekish strumper  
Train'd to armes and bloudy warres  
So many valiant Knights,  
Looke for no other fortune wretch then death,  
King *Edward* is not here to buckler thee.

*War.* Lancaster, why talkst thou to the slaue?  
Go Souldiers take him hence,  
For by my sword his head shall off:  
*Gaueston*, short warning shall serue thy turne:  
It is our Countries cause,  
That heere seuerely we will execute  
Vpon thy person: hang him at a bough:

*Gau.* My Lord.

*War.* Souldiers haue him away:  
But for thou wert the fauorite of a King,  
Thou shalt haue so much honour at our hands.

*Gauc.* I thanke you all my Lords, then I perceiue,  
That heading is one, and hanging is the other,  
And death is all.

*Enter Earle of Arundell.*

*Lanc.* How now my Lord of *Arundell*?

*Arun.* My Lords, King *Edward* greetes you all by me.

*War.* *Arundell* say your message. (ston,

*Arun.* His Maiesty hearing that you had taken *Gauc-*  
Intreateth you by me, yet but he may  
See him before he dyes, for why, he sayes  
And sends you word, he knowes that dye he shall,  
And if you gratifie his Grace so farre,  
He will be mindfull of the curtesie.

*War.* How now?

*Gauc.* Renowned *Edward*, how thy name



## The Tragedy

Reuiues poore *Gaueston*.

*War.* No it needeth not,  
*Arundell*, we will gratifie the King  
In other matters, he must pardon vs in this,  
Souldiers away with him.

*Gauc.* Why my Lord of *Warwick*,  
Will not these delayes beget my hopes?  
I know it Lords, it is this life you aime at,  
Yet grant King *Edward* this.

*Mor. in.* Shalt thou appoint what we shall grant?  
Souldiers away with him:

Thus wee le gratifie the King,  
Wee le send his head by thee, let him bestow  
His teares on that, for that is all he gets,  
Of *Gaueston*, or else his senselesse trunk.

*Lan.* Not so my Lord, lest he bestow more cost  
In burying him, then he hath euer earned.

*Arun.* My Lords, it is his Maiesties request,  
And in the honour of a King he sweares,  
He will but talke with him and send him backe.

*War.* When can you tell? *Arundell* no, we wot  
He that hath the care of Realme-remits,  
And driues his Nobles to these exigents  
For *Gaueston*, will if he seize him once,  
Violate any promise to possesse him.

*Arun.* Then if you will not trust his Grace in keepe,  
My Lords I will be pledge for his returne.

*Mor. in.* It is honourable in thee to offer this,  
But for we know thou art a noble Gentleman,  
We will not wrong thee so,  
To make away a true man for a theefe.

*Gauc.* How meanest thou *Mortimer*? that is ouer base.

*Mor.* Away base Groome, robber of Kings renowne,  
Question with thy companions and mates.

*Pen.* My Lord *Mortimer*, and you my Lords each one,  
To gratifie the Kings request therein,  
Touching the sending of this *Gaueston*,  
Because his Maiesty so earnestly

Desires



*of Edward the Second.*

Desires to see the man before his death,  
I will vpon my honour vndertake  
To carry him and bring him backe againe,  
Prouided this, that you my Lord of *Arundell*  
Will ioyne with me.

*War. Penbrooke*, what wilt thou doe?  
Cause yet more bloud-shed: is it not enough  
That we haue taken him, but must we now  
Leaue him on had-I-will, and let him go?

*Pen.* My Lords, I will not ouer-wooe your Honours,  
But if you dare trust *Penbrooke* with the Prisoner,  
Vpon mine Oath I will returne him backe.

*Arun.* My Lord of Lancaster, what say you in this?

*Lan.* Why I say let him goe on *Penbrookes* word.

*Pen.* And you Lord *Mortimer*.

*Mor.* How say you my Lord of *Warwicke*?

*War.* Nay, doe your pleasures,  
I know how t'will prooue.

*Pen.* Then giue him me.

*Gauc.* Sweete Soueraigne, yet I come  
To see thee ere I dye.

*War.* Yet not perhaps,  
If *Warwicks* wit and policy preuaile.

*Mor. in.* My Lord of *Penbrooke*, we deliuer him you.  
Returne him on your Honour sound away. *Exeunt.*

*Manent Penbrooke, Matrenis, Gaueston, and Pen-  
brookes men, foure Souldiers.*

*Pen.* My Lord, you shall goe with me,  
My house is not farre hence, out of the way  
A little, but our men shall goe along,  
We that haue pretty wenches to our Wiues,  
Sir, must not come so neere to balke their lips.

*Mat.* Tis very kindly spoke my Lord of *Penbrooke*,  
Your honour hath an Adamant of power,  
To draw a Prince.

*Pen.* So my Lord, come hither *James*,  
I do commit this *Gaueston* to thee,  
Be thou this night his Keeper, in the morning

*We*



*The Tragedy*

We will discharge thee of thy charge, be gone.

*Gauc.* Vnhappy *Gaueston*, whither goest thou now?

*Exit cum seruis Pen.*

*Horse boy.* My Lord, weele quickly be at *Cobham*.

*Exeunt ambo.*

*Enter Gaueston mourning, and the Earle of Pembrookes men.*

*Gau.* O trecherous *Warwick* thus to wrong thy friend.

*Iam.* I see it is your life these armes pursue.

*Gau.* Weaponlesse must I fall and dye in bands,  
O must this day be period of my life!  
Center of my blisse, and ye be men,  
Speed to the King.

*Enter Warwicke and his company.*

*War.* My Lord of *Penbrookes* men,  
Striue you no longer, I will haue that *Gaueston*.

*Iames.* Your Lordship doth dishonour to your selfe,  
And wrong our Lord, your honourable friend.

*War.* No *Iames*, it is my countries cause I follow,  
Goe, take the Villaine, Souldiers come away,  
Weele make quicke worke, commend me to your master  
My friend, and tell him that I watcht it well,  
Come let thy shadow parly with *King Edward*.

*Gauc.* Trecherous Earle, shall not I see the King?

*War.* The King of Heauen perhaps, no other King,  
Away.

*Exeunt Warwicke and his men, with Gaueston.*

*Manent Iames cum ceteris.*

Come fellowes, it booteth not for vs to striue,  
We will in hast goe certifie our Lord,

*Enter King Edward and Spencer, with  
Drums and Fifes.*

*Edw.* I long to heare an answere from the Barons,  
Touching my friend, my deerest *Gaueston*,  
Ah *Spencer*, not the riches of my Realme  
Can ransome him, ah he is mark't to die,  
I know the malice of the yonger *Mortimer*,  
*Warwicke* I know is rough, and *Lancaster*

In-



Inexorable, and I shall neuer see  
My louely *Pierce* of *Ganeſton* againe.  
The Barons ouer-bear me with their pride.

*Spencer.* Were I King *Edward*, *Englands* Soueraigne,  
Sonne to the louely *Elenor* of *Spaine*,  
Great *Edward Long-shankes* I ſhuc : would I beare  
Theſe braues, this rage, and ſuffer vncontrol'd  
Theſe Barons thus to beard me in my Land,  
In mine owne Realme? my Lord pardon my ſpeech,  
Did you retaine your fathers magnanimity,  
Did you regard the honour of your name,  
You would not ſuffer thus your Maieſty  
Be counter-buſt of your Nobility.  
Strike off their heads, and let them preach on poles,  
No doubt ſuch leſſons they will teach the reſt,  
As by their preachments they will profit much,  
And learne obedience to their lawfull King.

*Edw.* Yea gentle *Spencer*, we haue beene too mild,  
Too kind to them, but now haue drawne our ſword,  
And if they ſend me not my *Ganeſton*,  
Weele ſteele it on their creſt, and powle their tops.

*Bald.* This haught reſolute becomes your Maieſty,  
Not to be tied to their affection,  
As though your Highneſſe were a Schoole-boy ſtill,  
And muſt be aw'd and gouern'd like a Child.

*Enter Hugh Spencer, an old man, father to the young  
Spencer, with his Truncheon and Souldiers.*

*Spen. pa.* Long liue my Soueraigne the noble *Edward*,  
In peace triumphant, fortunate in warres.

*Edw.* Welcome old man, com'ſt thou in *Edwards* aid?  
Then tell the Prince of whence and what thou art.

*Spen. pa.* Lo with a band of Bowmen and of Pikes,  
Browne Bils, and Targetires, foure hundred ſtrong,  
Sworne to defend King *Edwards* royall right,  
I come in perſon to your Maieſty,  
*Spencer*, the Father of *Hugh Spencer* there,  
Bound to your Highneſſe euer-laſtingly,  
For fauour done in him, vnto vs all.



*The Tragedy*

*Edw.* Thy Father *Spencer*?

*Spen. filius.* True, and it like your Grace,  
That powres (in lieu of all your goodnesse shewne)  
His life my Lord, before your Princely feete.

*Edw.* Welcome ten thousand times, old man againe.

*Spencer,* this loue, this kindnesse to thy King,  
Argues thy noble mind and disposition:

*Spencer,* I here create thee Earle of Wilshire,  
And dayly will enrich thee with our fauour,  
That as the sun-shine shall reflect ore thee:  
Beside, the more to manifest our loue,  
Because we heare Lord *Bruse* doth sell his Land,  
And that the *Mortimers* are in hand withall,  
Thou shalt haue Crownes of vs to out-bid the Barons:  
And *Spencer,* spare them not, lay it on.  
Souldiers a Largis, and thrice welcome all.

*Spen.* My Lord, heere comes the Queene.

*Enter the Queene and her Sonne, and  
Lewne a Frenchman.*

*Edw.* Madam, what newes?

*Qu.* Newes of dishonour Lord and discontent,  
Our friend *Lewne*, faithfull and full of trust,  
Informeth vs by Letters and by words,  
That Lord *Valois* our Brother, King of France,  
Because your Highnesse hath beene slacke in homage,  
Hath seized *Normandy* into his hands,  
These be the Letters, this the Messenger.

*Edw.* Welcome *Lewne*, tush *Sib*, if this be all,  
*Valois* and I will soone be friends againe,  
But to my *Gaueston*: shall I neuer see,  
Neuer behold thee now? Madam in this matter  
We will imploy you and your little sonne,  
You shall go parley with the King of France,  
Boy, see you beare you brauely to the King,  
And do your message with a Maiesty.

*Prin.* Commit not to my youth, things of more waight  
Then fits a Prince so young as I to beare.  
And feare not Lord and father, heauen's great beames

On



On *Atlas* shoulder, shall not lye more safe,  
Then shall your charge committed to my trust.

*Qu.* Ah *But* this towardnesse makes thy Mother feare  
Thou art not markt to many dayes on Earth.

*Edw.* Madame, we will that you with speede be shipt,  
And this our sonne, *Lewne*, shall follow you,  
With all the haste we can dispatch him hence,  
Chooſe of our Lords to beare you company,  
And goe in peace, leaue vs in warres at home.

*Qu.* Vnnaturall wars, where subiects braue their King,  
God end them once, my Lord I take my leaue,  
To make my preparation for France.

*Enter Lord Matreuis.*

*Edw.* What Lord *Matre*, dost thou come alone?

*Mat.* Yes my good Lord, for *Ganeſton* is dead.

*Edw.* Ah Traytors, haue they put my friend to death,  
Tell me *Matre*, died he ere thou cam'st,  
Or did'st thou see my friend to take his death?

*Mat.* Neither my Lord, for as he was surpriz'd,  
Begirt with weapons, and with enemies round,  
I did your Highnesse meſſage to them all,  
Demanding him of them, entreating rather,  
And ſaid, vpon the honour of my name,  
That I would vndertake to carry him  
Vnto your Highnesse, and to bring him backe.

*Edw.* And tell me, would the Rebels deny me that?

*Spn.* Proud Recreants.

*Edw.* Yea *Spencer* traitors all.

*Matre.* I found them at the first inexorable.  
The Earle of *Warwicke* would not bide the hearing,  
*Mortimer* hardly, *Penbrooke* and *Lancaster*  
Spake leaſt: and when they flatly had denyed,  
Refuſing to receiue my pledge for him,  
The Earle of *Penbrooke* mildly thus beſpake:  
My Lords, becauſe our Soueraigne ſends for him,  
And promiſeth he ſhall be ſafe return'd,  
I will this vndertake, to haue him hence,  
And ſee him redeliuered to your hands.



*Edw.* Well, and how fortunes that became not?

*Spen.* Some treason, or some villany was cause.

*Mat.* The Earle of *Warwicke* seiz'd him on his way,  
For being deliuered vnto *Pembrookes* men,  
Their Lord rode home, thinking his Prisoner safe,  
But ere he came *Warwicke* in ambush lay,  
And bare him to his death, and in a Trench  
Stroke off his head, and march't vnto the Campe.

*Spen.* A bloody part, flatly 'gainst law of armes.

*Edw.* O shall I speake, or shall I sigh and dye!

*Spen.* My Lord, referre your vengeance to the sword,  
Vpon these Barons, harten vp your men,  
Let them not vnreueng'd murther your friends,  
Aduance your Standard *Edward* in the field,  
And march to fire them from their starting holes.

*Edward kneeles. and saith.*

By Earth, the common Mother of vs all,  
By Heauen and all the moouing Orbes thereof,  
By this right hand, and by my Fathers sword,  
And all the Honours longing to my Crowne,  
I will haue Heads, and Liues for him as many,  
As I haue Manors, Castles, Townes and Towers,  
Treachorous *Warwicke*, traiterous *Mortimer*:  
If I be Englands King, in Lakes of gore  
Your headlesse Trunkes, your bodies will I traile,  
That you may drinke your fill, and quaffe in bloud,  
And slaine my royall Standard with the same,  
That so my bloody colours may suggest  
Remembrance of reuenge immortally,  
On your accursed traiterous Progenie:  
You Villaines that haue slaine my *Gaueston*,  
And in this place of Honour and of trust,  
*Spencer*, sweete *Spencer*, I adopt thee heere,  
And meerely of our loue we do create thee  
Earle of Gloster, and Lord Chamberlaine,  
Despight of times, despight of enemies.

*Spen.* My Lord, heer's a Messenger from the Barons,  
Desires accesse vnto your Maiesty.

*Edw.*



*of Edward the second.*

*Edw.* Admit him neere.

*Enter the Herald from the Barons, with  
his Coate of Armes.*

*Mes.* Long liue King Edward, Englands lawfull Lord.

*Edw.* So wish not they I wis that sent thee hither,  
Thou com'st from *Mortimer* and his complices,  
A ranker rout of Rebels neuer was:  
Well, say thy Message.

*Mes.* The Barons vp in armes, by me salute  
Your Highnesse, with long life and happinesse,  
And bid me say as plainer to your Grace,  
That if without effusion of bloud,  
You will of this haue ease and remedy,  
That from your Princely Person you remoue  
This *Spencer*, as a putrifying branch,  
That deads the royall Vine whose golden Leaues  
Empale your Princely head, your Diadem,  
Whose brightnesse such pernicious Vpstarts dim,  
Say they, and louingly aduise your Grace,  
To cherish Vertue and Nobility,  
And haue old Seruitors in high esteeme,  
And shake off smooth dissembling Flatterers:  
This granted, they, their honours, and their liues,  
Are to your Highnesse vow'd and consecrate.

*Spen.* A Traytors, will they still display their pride?

*Edw.* Away, tarry no answer but be gone,  
Rebels, will they appoint their Soueraigne  
His sports, his pleasures, and his company?  
Yet ere thou goe, see how I doe diuorce  
*Spencer* from me: now get thee to thy Lords, *Embrace  
Spencer.*  
And tell them I will come to chastise them,  
For murdering *Gaueston*: hie thee, get thee gone,  
*Edward* with fire and sword, followes at thy heeles,  
My Lord, perceiue you how these Rebels swell:  
Souldiers, good hearts, defend your Soueraignes right,  
For now, euen now, we march to make them stoope,  
Away. *Exeunt.*

*Alarums, Excursions, a great Fight, and a Retreat.*



*The Tragedy*

*Enter the King, Spencer the father, Spencer the sonne,  
and the Noblemen of the Kings side.*

*Edw.* Why doe we sound retreat? vpon them Lords,  
This day I shall powre vengeance with my sword  
On those proud Rebels that are vp in armes,  
And do confront and countermaund their King.

*Spen. son.* I doubt it not my Lord, right will preuaile,

*Spen. fa.* Tis not amisse my Leige for either part,  
To breath a while, our men with sweat and dust  
All chockt well neare, begin to faint for heate,  
And this retire refreth horse and man.

*Spen. son.* Heere come the Rebels.

*Enter the Barons, Mortimer, Lancaster, Warwicke,  
Penbrooke, cum cateris.* (terers.

*Mor.* Looke Lancaster, yonder is Edward among his flat-  
*Lan.* And there let him bee, till he pay decreely for their  
company.

*War.* And shall, or Warwicks sword shall smite in vaine:

*Edw.* What Rebels, do you shrink, and sound retreat?

*Mor.* No Edward no, thy flatterers faint and flye.

*Lan.* Th'ad best betimes forsake thee and their trains,  
For theile betray thee, traytors as they are.

*Spen. son.* Traytor on thy face, rebellious Lancaster.

*Pen.* Away base Vpstart, brau'st thou Nobles thus?

*Spen. fa.* A noble attempt and honourable deede,  
Is it not trow ye, to assemble aide,  
And leuie armes against your lawfull King?

*Edw.* For which ere long their heads shall satisfie,  
T'appeale the wrath of their offended King.

*Mor.* Then Edward thou wilt fight it to the last,  
And rather bath thy sword in subiects blood  
Then banish that pernicious company.

*Edw.* I traitours all, rather then thus be brau'd,  
Make Englands ciuill Townes huge heapes of stones,  
And plowes to goe about our Palace gates.

*War.* A desperate and vnnaturall resolution,  
Alarum to the fight, Saint George for England,  
And the Barons right.

*Edw.*



*of Edward the second.*

*Edw. S. George for England, and King Edwards right.*

*Enter Edward, with the Barons captives.*

*Edw.* Now lusty Lords, now not by chance of warre,  
But iustice of the quarrell and the cause  
Vaild is your pride, me thinkes you hang the heads,  
But weele aduance them Traytos, now tis time  
To be aueng'd on you for all your braues,  
And for the murther of my deere friend,  
To whom right well you knew our soule was knit,  
Good *Pierce of Gaueston* my sweete fauorit,  
Ah Rebels, Recreants, you made him away.

*Edm.* Brother, in regard of thee and of thy Land,  
Did they remoue that Flatterer from thy Throne.

*Edw.* So sir, you haue spoke, away, auoid our presence,  
Accursed wretches, wast in regard of vs,  
When we had sent our Messengers to request  
He might bespar'd to come to speake with vs,  
And *Penbrooke* vndertooke for his returne,  
That thou proud *Warwicke* watcht the prisoner,  
Poore *Peirce*, and headed him 'gainst law of armes,  
For which thy head shall ouerlook the rest,  
As much as thou in rage out went'st the rest.

*War.* Tyrant, I scorne thy threats and menaces,  
Tis but temporall that thou canst inflict.

*Lan.* The worst is death, and better dye to liue,  
Then liue in infamy vnder such a King.

*Edw.* Away with them my Lord of Winchester,  
These lusty Leaders *Warwicke* and *Lancaster*,  
I charge you roundly off with both their heads, away.

*War.* Farewell vaine world.

*Lan.* Sweete *Mortimer* farewell.

*Mor.* England vnkinde to thy Nobility,  
Grone for this grieffe, behold how thou art maimed.

*Edw.* Goe take that haughty *Mortimer* to the Tower,  
There see him safe bestowed, and for the rest,  
Doe speedy execution on them all, be gone.

*Mor.* What *Mortimer*? can ragged stony walles  
Immure thy vertue that aspires to Heauen,  
No *Edward* Englands scourge, it may not be,

*Mor.*



*Mortimers* hope surmounts his fortune farre. (friends.

*Ed.* Sound Drums and Trumpets, march with me my  
*Edward* this day hath crown'd him King anew. *Exit.*

*Manent Spencer filius, Lewne and Baldock.*

*Spen.* *Lewne*, the trust that we repose in thee,  
Begets the quiet of King *Edwards* Land,  
Therefore be gone in haste, and with aduice,  
Bestow that Treasure on the Lords of France,  
That therewithall enchanted like the Guard  
That suffered *Ioue* to passe in showers of Gold  
To *Danae*, all aid may be denyed  
To *Isabell* the Queene, that now in France  
Makes friends, to crosse the Seas with her young sonne,  
And step into his fathers Regiment.

*Lew.* That's it these Barons and the subtile Queene  
Long leuied at.

*Bald.* Yea, but *Lewne* thou seest,  
These Barons lay their heads on blocks together,  
What they intend the Hangman frustrates cleane.

*Lew.* Haue you no doubt my Lords, he claps close,  
Among the Lords of France with Englands Gold,  
That *Isabell* shall make her plaints in vaine,  
And France shall be obdurate with her teares.

*Spen.* Then make for France, amaine *Lewne* away,  
Proclaime King *Edwards* warres and victories.

*Enter Edmond.*

*Exeunt omnes.*

*Edm.* Faire blowes the wind for France, blow gentle gale,  
Till *Edmond* be arriu'd for Englands good,  
Nature, yeeld to my Countries cause in this.

A Brother, no, a Butcher of thy friends,  
Proud *Edward* dost thou banish me thy presence?  
But he to France, and cheere the wronged Queene,  
And certifie what *Edwards* loosenesse is,  
Vnnaturall King to slaughter Noblemen,  
And cherish Flatterers: *Mortimer* I stay (deuice,  
Thy sweet escape, stand gracious gloomy night to his

*Enter Mortimer disguised.*

*Mor.* Holla, who walketh there, is't you my Lord?

*Edm.*



*Edm. Mortimer* tis I, but hath thy potion wrought so happily?

*Mor.* It hath my Lord, the Warders all asleepe,  
I thanke them, gaue me leaue to passe in peace,  
But hath your Grace got shipping into France?

*Edm.* Feare it not.

*Exeunt.*

*Enter the Queene and her sonne.*

*Qu.* Ah Boy, our friends do faile vs all in France:  
The Lords are cruell and the King vnkind,  
What shall we doe?

*Prince.* Madame, returne to England,  
And please my Father well, and then a Fig  
For all my Vncles friendship heere in France,  
I warrant you Ile winne his Highnesse quickly,  
A loue me better then a thousand *Spencers*.

*Qu.* Ah Boy, thou art deceiu'd at least in this,  
To thinke that we can yet be tun'd together,  
No, no, we iarre too farre, vnkind *Valoys*,  
Vnhappy *Isabell*, when France reiects,  
Whither, O whither dost thou bend thy steps?

*Enter Sir Iohn of Henolt.*

*S. Iohn.* Madam, what cheere?

*Qu.* Ah good Sir Iohn of Henolt,  
Neuer so cheerelesse, nor so farre distrest.

*S. Iohn.* I heare sweete Lady of the Kings vnkindnesse,  
But droope not Madam, Noble minds contemne  
Despaire: will your Grace with me to *Henolt*,  
And there stay times aduantage with your sonne?  
How say you my Lord, will you goe with your friends,  
And shake off all our fortunes equally?

*Prin.* So pleaseth the Queene my Mother, me it likes,  
The King of England, nor the Court of France,  
Shall haue me from my gracious Mothers side,  
Till I be strong enough to breake a staffe,  
And then haue at the proudest *Spencers* head.

*Sir Iohn.* Well said my Lord.

*Qu.* Oh my sweete heart, how do I mone thy wrongs?  
Yet triumph in the hope of thee my ioy,



Ab sweet Sir *John*, euen to the vtmost verge  
Of *Europe*, or the shore of *Tanasse*,  
Will we with thee to *Henolt*, so we will,  
The *Marquesse* is a noble Gentleman,  
His Grace I dare presume will welcome me,  
But who are these?

*Enter Edmond and Mortimer.*

*Edm.* Madam, long may you liue,  
Much happier then your friends in *England* do.

*Qu.* Lord *Edmond* and Lord *Mortimer* aliue,  
Welcome to France: the newes was here my Lord,  
That you were dead, or very neere your death.

*Mor. in.* Lady, the last was truest of the twaine,  
But *Mortimer* reseru'd for better hap,  
Hath shaken off the thraldome of the Tower,  
And liues to aduance your Standard good my Lord.

*Prin.* How meane you, and the King my Father liues?  
No my Lord *Mortimer*, not I, I trow.

*Qu.* Not sonne, why not? I would it were no worse,  
But gentle Lords, friendlesse we are in France.

*Mor. in.* Mounsier le Grand, a Noble friend of yours,  
Told vs at our arriual all the newes,  
How hard the Nobles, how vnkind the King  
Hath shewed himselfe, but Madam, right makes roome,  
Where weapons want, and though a many friends,  
Are made away, as *Warwicke*, *Lancaster*,  
And others of our party and faction,  
Yet haue we friends, assure your Grace in *England*,  
Would cast vp cappes, and clap their hands for ioy,  
To see vs there appointed for our foes.

*Edm.* Would all were well, and *Edward* well reclaim'd,  
For *England*'s honour, peace, and quietnesse.

*Mor.* But by the sword, my Lord, it must be deseru'd,  
The King will nere forsake his flatterers.

*S. Iohn.* My Lords of *England*, sith the vngentle King  
Of France refuseth to giue aid of armes,  
To this distressed Queene his Sister heere,  
Goe you with her to *Henolt*, doubt ye not,



*of Edward the second.*

We will find comfort, mony, men, and friends,  
Ere long, to bid the English King abase,  
How say young Prince, what thinke you of the match?

*Prin.* I thinke King *Edward* will outrunne vs all.

*Qu.* Nay Sonne, not so, and you must not discourage  
Your friends that are so forward in your aide.

*Edm.* Sir *John* of *Henolt*, pardon vs I pray,  
These comforts that you giue our wofull Queene,  
Bind vs in kindnesse all at your command.

*Qu.* Yea gentle brother, and the God of Heauen,  
Prosper your happy motion good Sir *John*.

*Mor.* This noble Gentleman forward in armes,  
Was borne I see to be our Anchor hold,  
Sir *John* of *Henolt*, be it thy renowne,  
That Englands Queene, and Nobles in distresse,  
Haue beene by thee restor'd and comforted.

*S. John.* Madame along, and you my Lord with me,  
That Englands Peeres may *Henolt*s welcome see.

*Enter the King, Matreuis, the two Spencers, with others.*

*Edw.* Thus after many threats of wrathfull warre,  
Triumpheth Englands *Edward* with his friends,  
And triumph *Edward* with his friends vncontrold,  
My Lord of *Gloster*, doe you heare the newes?

*Spencer. in.* What newes my Lord?

*Edw.* Why man, they say there is great execution  
Done through the Realme, my Lord of *Arundell*  
You haue the note, haue you not?

*Mat.* From the Lieutenant of the Tower my Lord.

*Edw.* I pray let vs see it what haue we there?

Read it *Spencer*.

*Spencer* reads their names.

Why so? they bark't apace not long agoe,  
Now on my life, theile neither barke nor bite.  
Now sirs, the newes from France, *Gloster* I trow,  
The Lords of France loue Englands gold so well,  
As *Isabell* gets no aid from thence.

What now remains, haue you proclaim'd my Lord,  
Reward for them can bring in *Mortimer*?

*Spencer. in.* My Lord we haue, and if he be in England,



*The Tragedy*

A will be had ere long I doubt it not.

*Edw.* If, doost thou say? *Spencer*, as true as death,  
He is in Englands ground, our Port-masters  
Are not so carelesse of their Kings command.

*Enter a Poast.*

(*the set*

How now, what newes with thee? from whence come

*Poast.* Letters my Lord, and tidings forth of France,  
To you my Lord of Gloster from *Lewne*.

*Edw.* Reade.

*Spencer* reads the Letters.

My duty to your Honour premised, &c. I have according to instructions in that behalfe, dealt with the King of France his Lords, and effected that the Queene all discontented and discomforted, is gone, whither if you aske, with Sir *John of Henolt*, Brother to the Marquesse, into Flaunders: with them are gone Lord *Edmond*, and the Lord *Mortimer*, hauing in their company diuers of your Nation and others, and as constant report goeth, they intend to giue King *Edward* battell in England, sooner then hee can looke for them: this is all the newes of Import.

*Your Honours in all seruice, Lewne.*

*Edw.* Ah Villaines, hath that *Mortimer* escaped?  
With him is *Edmond* gone associate:

And will Sir *John of Henolt* lead the round?

Welcome a Gods name Madam and your sonne,

England shall welcome you, and all your route,

Gallop apace bright *Phobus* through the skye,

And dusky night in rusty Iron Carre,

Betweene you both, shorten the time I pray,

That I may see that most desired day,

When we may meete these traytors in the field.

Ah nothing grieues me but my little Boy,

Is thus mislead to countenance their ils.

Come friends to *Brisslow*, there to make vs strong,

And winds as equall be to bring them in,

As you iniurious were to beare them forth.

*Enter the Queene, her son, Edmond, Mortimer, and Sir John.*

*Qu.*



*of Edward the second.*

*Qu.* Now Lords, our louing friends and countrymen,  
Welcome to England all with prosperous winds,  
Our kindest friends in Belgia haue we left  
To cope with friends at home: a heavy case,  
When force to force is knit, and sword and glaue  
In ciuill broiles make kin and countrymen  
Slaughter themselues in others, and their sides  
With their owne weapons goar'd, but what's the helpe?  
Misgouern'd Kings are cause of all this wrack,  
And *Edward* thou art one among them all,  
Whose loofenesse hath betrayed thy Land to spoyle,  
And made the Channell overflow with bloud  
Of thine owne people: patron shouldst thou be, but thou.

*Mor.* Nay Madam, if you be a Warriour,  
You must not grow so passionate in speeches.  
Lords, sith that we are by sufferance of Heauen,  
Arriu'd and armed in this Princes right,  
Heere for our Countries cause sweare we to him  
All homage, fealty and forwardnesse,  
And for the open wrongs and iniuries  
*Edward* hath done to vs, his Queene and Land,  
We come in armes to wrecke it with the sword:  
That Englands Queene in peace may repossesse  
Her Dignities and honours: and withall  
We may remoue these flatterers from the King,  
That hauocks Englands wealth and treasury.

*S. Io.* Sound Trumpets my Lord, and forward let vs  
*Edward* will thinke we come to flatter him. (march

*Edm.* I would he neuer had beene flattered more.

*Enter the King, Baldocke, and Spencer the  
sonne, flying about the Stage.*

*Spem.* Fly, fly, my Lord, the Queene is ouer-strong,  
Her friends do multiply, and yours do fayle,  
Shape we our course to *Ireland* there to breath.

*Edm.* What, was I borne to flye and runne away,  
And leaue the *Mortimers* Conquerours behind?  
Giue me my Horse and lets re'nforce our troopes:  
And in this bed of honour dye with fame.



## *The Tragedy*

*Bald.* O no my Lord, this Princely resolution  
Fits not the time, away, we are pursued.

*Edmond alone with a Sword and Target.*

*Edm.* This way he fled, but I am come too late,  
*Edward*, alas my heart relents for thee,  
Proud Traytor *Mortimer* why dost thou chase  
Thy lawfull King thy Soueraigne, with thy sword  
Vildewretch, and why hast thou of all vnkinde,  
Borne armes against thy Brother and thy King?  
Raine showers of Vengeance on my curled head  
Thou God, to whom in iustice it belongs  
To punish this vnnaturall reuolt:

*Edward*, this *Mortimer* aimes at thy life:  
O flye him then, but *Edmond* calme this rage,  
Dissemble or thou diest, for *Mortimer*  
And *Isabell* do kisse while they conspire,  
And yet she beares a face of loue forsooth:  
Fie on that loue that hatcheth death and hate,  
*Edmond* away, Bristow to Longshankes bloud  
Is false, be not found single for suspect:  
Proud *Mortimer* pries neere into thy walkes.

*Enter the Queene, Mortimer, the yong Prince  
and Sir Iohn of Henale.*

*Qu.* Succesfull battell giues the God of Kings,  
To them that fight in right and feare his wrath:  
Since then successiuelly we haue preuail'd,  
Thanked be Heauens great architect and you,  
Ere farther we proceede my noble Lords,  
We heere create our welbeloued sonne,  
Of loue and care vnto his royall person,  
Lord Warden of the Realme, and sith the fates  
Haue made his father so vnfortunate,  
Deale you my Lords in this, my louing Lords,  
As to your wisdomes fittest seemes in all.

*Edm.* Madam, without offence if I may aske,  
How will you deale with *Edward* in his fall?

*Prin.* Tell me good Vnkle, what *Edward* do you meane?

*Edm.* Nephew, your father, I dare not call him King.

*Mor.*



*of Edward the second.*

*Mor.* My Lord of Kent, what needes these questions?  
Tis not in her controulment, nor in ours,  
But as the Realme and Parliament shall please,  
So shall your Brother be disposed of.  
I like not this relenting moode in *Edmond*.  
Madam, tis good to looke to him betimes.

*Qu.* My Lord, the Maior of Bristow knowes our mind.

*Mor.* Yea Madam, and they scape not easily,  
That fled the field.

*Qu.* *Baldocke* is with the King.

A goodly Chancellour, is he not my Lord?

*S. Iohn.* So are the *Spencers*, the father and the sonne.

*Edm.* This *Edward* is the ruine of the Realme.

*Enter Rice ap Howell, and the Maior of Bristow,  
with Spencer the father.*

*Rice.* God saue Queene *Isabell*, and her Princely sonne,  
Madam, the Maior and Citizens of Bristow  
In signe of loue and duty to this presence,  
Present by me this Traytor to the State,  
*Spencer*, the Father to that wanton *Spencer*,  
That like the lawlesse *Catiline* of Rome,  
Reueld in Englands wealth and Treasury.

*Qu.* We thanke you all.

*Mor. in.* Your louing care in this,  
Deserueth Princely fauours and rewards,  
But where's the King and the other *Spencer* fled?

*Rice.* *Spencer* the sonne, created Earle of Gloucester,  
Is with that smooth tongu'd Scholler *Baldocke* gone,  
And shipt but late for Ireland with the King.

*Mor. in.* Some whirlwind fetch them backe, or sinke  
them all:

They shall be started thence I doubt it not.

*Prin.* Shall I not see the King my father yet?

*Edm.* Vnhappi's *Edward*, chast from Englands bounds.

*S. Iohn.* Madam, what resteth, why stand ye in a muse?

*Qu.* I rue my Lords ill fortune, but alas,  
Care of my Country cald me to this warre.

*Mor.* Madam, haue done with care and sad complaint,  
Your



Your King hath wrong'd your Country and himselfe,  
And we must seeke to right it as we may.  
Meane while, haue hence this Rebelle to the block.

*Spencer.* Rebelle is he that fights against the Prince,  
So fought not they that fought in *Edwards* right.

*Mor.* Take him away, he prates, you *Rice ap Howell*,  
Shall do good seruice to her Maiesty,  
Being of countenance in your Country heere,  
To follow these rebellious Runagates,  
We in meane while Madam, must take aduice,  
How *Baldock*, *Spencer*, and their complices,  
May in their fall be followed to their end.

*Exeunt omnes.*

*Enter the Abbot, Monkes, Edward, Spencer,  
and Baldocke.*

*Ab.* Have you no doubt my Lord, haue you no feare.  
As silent, and as carefull we will be,  
To keepe your Royall person safe with vs,  
Free from suspect and fell inuasion  
Of such as haue your Maiesty in chace,  
Your selfe, and those your chosen company,  
As danger of this stormy time requires.

*Edw.* Father, thy face should harbour no deceit,  
O had'st thou euer beene a King, thy heart  
Pierc't deeply with sence of my distresse,  
Could not but take compassion of my state.  
Stately and proud, in riches and in traine  
Whilom I was powerfull and full of pompe,  
But what is he, whom rule and Empery  
Haue not in life or death made miserable?  
Come *Spencer*, come *Baldocke*, come sit downe by me,  
Make tryall now of thy Philosophie,  
That in our famous nurseries of Arts  
Thou suckedst from *Plato*, and from *Aristotle*.  
Father this life contemplatiue is Heauen,  
O that I might this life in quiet lead,  
But we alas are chaste, and you my friends,  
Your liues and my dishonour they pursue,

Yet



*of Edward the second.*

Yet gentle Monkes, for Treasure, Gold, nor Fee,  
Doe you betray vs and our company.

*Mon.* Your Grace may sit secure, if none but we do wor  
of your abode.

*Spen.* Not one aliue, but shrewdly I suspect,  
A gloomy fellow in a Mead below,  
A gaue a long looke after vs my Lord,  
And all the Land I know is vp in armes,  
Armes that pursue our liues with deadly hate.

*Bald.* We were imbarke't for *Ireland*, wretched we,  
With aukward winds, and with sore tempests driuen  
To fall on shore, and here to pine in feare  
Of *Mortimer* and his Confederates.

*Edw.* *Mortimer*, who talkes of *Mortimer*,  
Who wounds me with the name of *Mortimer*  
That bloody man? good father on thy lap  
Lay I this head, laden with mickle care,  
O might I neuer ope these eyes againe,  
Neuer againe lift vp this drooping head,  
O neuer more lift vp this dying heart!

*Spen. son.* Looke vp my Lord. *Baldocke*, this drowlesse  
Betides no good, here euen we are betrayed.

*Enter with Welch bookes, Rice ap Howell, a Mower,  
and the Earle of Leicester.*

*Mower.* Vpon my life, these be the men ye seeke,

*Rice.* Fellow enough, my Lord I pray be short,  
A faire Commission warrants what we doe.

*Lei.* The Queenes commission, vrg'd by *Mortimer*,  
What cannot *Mortimer* doe with the Queene?

Alas, see where he sits, and hopes vnscene  
T'escape their hands that seeke to reauue his Life:  
Too true it is, *quem dies vidit veniens superbum,*  
*Hunc dies videt fugiens iacentem.*

But *Leister* leaue to grow so passionate,  
*Spencer* and *Baldocke* by no other names,  
I arrest you of high treason heere,  
Stand not on Titles, but obey the arrest,  
Tis in the name of *Isabel* the Queene.

H

My



*The Tragedy*

My Lord, why droope you thus?

*Edw.* O day ! the last of all my blisse on earth,  
Center of all misfortune. O my Starres !  
Why do you lowre vnkindly on a King?  
Came *Leister* then in *Isabellas* name,  
To take my life, my company from me?  
Heere man rip vp this panting breast of mine,  
And take my heart in reskew of my friends.

*Rice.* Away with them.

*Spem. in.* It may become thee yet,  
To let vs take our farewell of his Grace.

*Abb.* My heart with pittie eernes to see this sight,  
A King to beare these words and proud commands.

*Edw. Spencer,* ah sweet *Spencer*, thus then must we part.

*Spem. in.* We must my Lord, so will the angry Heauens.

*Edw.* Nay so will Hell and cruell *Mortimer* :

The gentle Heauens haue not to do in this.

*Bald.* My Lord, it is in vaine to grieue or storme,  
Heere humbly of your Grace we take our leaues,  
Our Lots are cast, I feare me so is thine,

*Edw.* In Heauen we may, in earth neuer shall we meet,  
And *Leister* say, what shall become of vs?

*Lei.* Your Maiesty must goe to Killingworth.

*Edw.* Must ! Tis somewhat hard, when Kings must go.

*Lei.* Here is a Litter ready for your Grace,  
That waites your pleasure, and the day growes old.

*Rice.* As good be gone as stay and be benighted.

*Edw.* A Litter haist thou, Lay me on a Hearse,  
And to the gates of Hell conuay me hence,  
Let *Plutos* Bels ring out my fatall knell,  
And Hags howle for my death at *Charons* shore,  
For friends hath *Edward* none, but these, and these,  
And these must dye vnder a Tyrants sword.

*Rice.* My Lord be going, care not for these,  
For we shall see them shorter by the heads.

*Edw.* Well, that shall be, shall be, part we must,  
Sweet *Spencer*, gentle *Baldocke*, part we must,  
Hence fained weedes, vnfained are my woes,

Father,



Father, farewell : *Leister* thou staist for me,  
And goe I must, Life farewell with my friends.

*Exeunt Edward and Lancaster.*

*Spen.* O is he gone ! is Noble *Edward* gone,  
Parted from hence, neuer to see vs more,  
Rent Sphere of Heauen, and fire forsake thy Orbe,  
Earth melt to Aire, gone is my Soueraigne,  
Gone, gone alas, neuer to make returne.

*Bald. Spencer,* I see our soules are fleeting hence,  
We are depriu'd the sun-shine of our life,  
Make for a new life man, throw vp thy eyes,  
And heart and hand to Heauens immortall Throne,  
Pay Natures debt with cheerefull countenance,  
Reduce we all our Lessons vnto this,  
To dye, sweete *Spencer,* therefore liue we all,  
*Spencer,* all liue to dye, and rise to fall.

*Rice.* Come, come, keepe these preachments till you  
come to the place appointed.

You, & such as you are, haue made wise work in England.  
Will your Lordships away?

*Mower.* Your Lordship I trust will remember me?

*Rice.* Remember thee fellow? what else?  
Follow me to the Towne.

*Enter the King, Leicester, with a Bishop for  
the Crowne.*

*Lei.* Be patient good my Lord, cease to lament,  
Imagine Killingworth Castell were your Court:  
And that you lay for pleasure heere a space,  
Not of compulsion or necessity.

*Edw.* *Leister,* if gentle words might comfort me,  
Thy speeches long agoe had eas'd my sorrowes,  
For kinde and louing hast thou alwayes beene:  
The griefes of priuate men are soone allaid,  
But not of Kings, the Forrest Deere being stricke,  
Runnes to an Herbe that closeth vp the wounds,  
But when the imperiall Lyons flesh is gor'd,  
He rends, and teares it with his wrathfull paw,  
Highly scorning, that the lowly earth



Should drinke his bloud, mounts vp to the ayre:  
 And so it fares with me, whose dauntlesse mind  
 The ambitious *Mortimer* would seeke to curbe,  
 And that vnnaturall Queene false *Isabell*,  
 That thus hath pent and mu'd me in a prison,  
 For such outragious passions cloy my soule,  
 As with the wings of rancour and disdain  
 Full oft am I soaring vp to Heauen,  
 To plaine me to the Gods against them both:  
 But when I call to mind I am a King,  
 Methinkes I should reuenge me of my wrongs,  
 That *Mortimer* and *Isabell* haue done.  
 But what are Kings, when regiment is gone,  
 But perfect shadowes in a sun-shine day?  
 My Nobles rule, I beare the name of King,  
 I weare the Crowne, but am contrould by them,  
 By *Mortimer*, and my vnconstant Queene,  
 Who spots my nuptriall bed with infamy,  
 Whilst I am lodg'd within this Caue of care,  
 Where sorrow at my elbow still attends,  
 To company my heart with sad laments,  
 That bleedes within me for this strange exchange.  
 But tell me must I now resigne my Crowne,  
 To make vsurping *Mortimer* a King?

*Bish.* Your Grace mistakes, it is for Englands good,  
 And Princely *Edwards* right, we craue the Crowne.

*Edw.* No, tis for *Mortimer*, not *Edwards* head,  
 For hees a Lambe, encompassed by Wolues,  
 Which in a moment will abridge his life:  
 But if proud *Mortimer* doe weare this Crowne,  
 Heauens turne it to a blaze of quenchlesse fire,  
 Or like the snaky wreath of *Tisiphon*,  
 Engirt the Temples of his hatefull head,  
 So shall not Englands Vines be perished,  
 But *Edwards* name suruiue, though *Edward* dies.

*Leist.* My Lord, why waste you thus the time away,  
 They stay your answere, will you yeeld your Crowne?

*Edw.* Ah *Leister*, weigh how hardly I can brooke



To lose my Crowne and Kingdome without cause,  
To giue ambitious *Mortimer* my right,  
That like a Mountaine ouerwhelmes my blisse,  
In which extreames my mind heere murdered is:  
But that the Heauens appoint, I must obey.  
Here take my Crowne, the life of *Edward* too,  
Two Kings in England cannot raigne at once:  
But stay awhile, let me be King till night,  
That I may gaze vpon this glittering Crowne,  
So shall my eyes receiue their last content,  
My head the latest honour due to it,  
And ioyntly both yeeld vp their wished right.  
Continue euer thou celestiall Sunne,  
Let neuer silent night possesse this clime,  
Stand still you watches of the Element,  
All times and seasons rest you at a stay,  
That *Edward* may be still faire Englands King:  
But dayes bright beame doth vanish fast away,  
And needes I must resigne my wished Crowne.  
Inhumane creatures, nurs't with Tigers milke,  
Why gape you for your Soueraignes ouerthrow?  
My Diadem I meane and guilelesse life,  
See Monsters see, Ile weare my Crowne againe:  
What feare you not the fury of your King?  
But haplesse *Edward*, thou art fondly led,  
They passe not for thy frownes as late they did;  
But seeke to make a new elected King,  
Which fills my mind with strange despairing thoughts,  
Which thoughts are martyred with endlesse torments.  
And in this torment comfort finde I none,  
But that I feele the Crowne vpon my head,  
And therefore let me weare it yet a while.

*Tru.* My Lord, the Parliament must haue present newes,  
And therefore say, will you resigne or no.

*The King rageth.*

*Edw.* Ile not resigne, not whilst I liue,  
Traytors be gone, and ioyne you with *Mortimer*,  
Elect, conspire, enstall, doe what you will,



Their bloud and yours shall seale these Trecheries.

*Bish.* This answer weele returne, and so farewell.

*Lei.* Call them againe my Lord, and speake them faire,  
For if they goe, the Prince shall lose his right.

*Edw.* Call thou them backe, I haue no power to speake.

*Lei.* My Lord, the King is willing to resigne,

*Bish.* If he be not, let him chuse.

*Edw.* O would I might, but heauens and earth conspire  
To make me miserable: here receiue my Crowne,  
Receiue it? no, these innocent hands of mine  
Shall not be guilty of so foule a crime,  
He of you all that most desires my bloud,  
And will be cald the murtherer of a King,  
Take it: what are you mou'd? pittie you me?  
Then send for vnrelenting *Mortimer*  
And *Isabell*, whose eyes being turn'd to Steele,  
Will sooner sparkle fire then shed a teare:  
Yet stay, for rather then I will looke on them,  
Heere, heere: now sweete God of Heauen,  
Make me despise this transitory pompe,  
And sit for aye inthronized in Heauen,  
Come death, and with thy fingers close my eyes,  
Or if I liue let me forget my selfe.

*Enter Bartley.*

*Bart.* My Lord.

*Edw.* Call me not Lord,  
Away, out of my sight, ah pardon me,  
Griefe makes me Lunaticke,  
Let not that *Mortimer* protect my sonne,  
More safety there is in a Tigers lawes  
Then his imbracements: beare this to the Queene,  
Wet with my teares, and dried againe with sighs,  
If with the sight thereof she be not moued,  
Returne it backe, and dip it in my bloud,  
Commend me to my Sonne and bid him rule  
Better then I, yet how haue I transgressed,  
Vnlesse it be with too much clemency?

*Tru.* And thus most humbly do we take our leaue.

*Edw.*



of Edward the Jerona.

*Edw.* Farewell; I know the next newes that they bring,  
Will be my death, and welcome shall it be,  
To wretched men death is felicity.

*Lei.* Another Post, what newes brings he?

*Edw.* Such newes as I expect, come *Bartley* come,  
And tell thy message to my naked breast.

*Bart.* My Lord thinke not a thought so villanous  
Can harbour in a man of noble birth.

To doe your Highnesse seruice and deuoir,  
And saue you from your foes, *Bartley* would dye,

*Lei.* My Lord, the Councell and the Queen commands,  
That I resigne my charge.

*Edw.* And who must keep me now, must you my Lord?

*Bart.* I, my most gracious Lord, so tis decreed.

*Edw.* By *Mortimer* whose name is written here,  
Well may I rent his name, that rends my heart,  
This poore reuenge hath something eas'd my mind,  
So may his limbs be torne as is this Paper,  
Heare me immortall *Ioue*, and grant it too.

*Bar.* Your Grace must hence with me to *Bartley* straight.

*Edw.* Whither you will, all places are alike,  
And euery earth is fit for buriall.

*Lei.* Fauour him my Lord as much as lieth in you.

*Bart.* Euen so betide my soule as I vse him.

*Edw.* My enemy hath pittied my estate,  
And that's the cause that I am now remou'd.

*Bar.* And thinks your Grace that *Bartley* will be cruel?

*Edw.* I know not, but of this am I assured,  
That death ends all, and I can dye but once.

*Leicester* farewell.

*Lei.* Not yet my Lord, Ile beare you on your way;

*Exeunt omnes. Enter Mortimer and Queene Isabell.*

*Mor. in.* Faire *Isabell*, now haue we our desire,  
The proud corrupters of the light-braind King,  
Haue done their homage to the lofty Gallows,  
And he himselfe lies in captiuitie,  
Berul'd by me, and we will rule the Realme,  
In any case take heede of childish feare,

For



For now we hold an old Wolfe by the care,  
That if he slip will seaze vpon vs both,  
And gripe the forer being gript, himselfe.  
Thinke therefore Madam that imports vs much,  
To erect your sonne with all the speedewe may,  
And that I be Protector ouer him,  
For our behoofe, 'twill beare the greater sway,  
When as a Kings name shall be vnder writ.

*Qu.* Sweete *Mortimer*, the life of *Isabell*,  
Be thou perswaded that I loue thee well,  
And therefore so the Prince my sonne be safe,  
Whom I esteeme as deere as these mine eyes,  
Conclude against his father what thou wilt,  
And I my selfe will willingly subscribe.

*Mor. in.* First would I heare newes he were depos'd,  
And then let me alone to handle him.

*Enter Messenger.*

*Mor. in.* Letters, from whence?

*Messen.* From *Killingworth* my Lord.

*Qu.* How fares my Lord the King?

*Messen.* In health Madam, but full of pensiueneffe.

*Qu.* Alas poore soule, would I could ease his grieffe,  
Thankes gentle *Winchester*, sirra be gone.

*Win.* The King hath willingly resign'd his Crowne.

*Qu.* O happy newes, send for the Prince my sonne.

*Bi.* Further, or this Letter was seal'd, Lord *Bartley* came,  
So that he now is gone from *Killingworth*,  
And we haue heard that *Edmond* laid a plot,  
To set his brother free, no more but so,  
The Lord of *Bartley* is so pittifull,  
As *Leicester* that had charge of him before.

*Qu.* Then let some other be his Guardian.

*Mor. in.* Let me alone, here is the priuy Seale,  
Whose there, call hither *Gurney* and *Matrenis*,  
To dash the heauy headed *Edmonds* drift,  
*Bartley* shall be discharg'd, the King remou'd,  
And none but we shall know where he lieth.

*Qu.* But *Mortimer*, as long as he suruiues,

What



*of Edward the second.*

What safety rests for vs, or for my sonne?

*Mor. in.* Speake, shall he presently be dispatch'd & dye?

*Qu.* I would he were, so it were not by my meanes.

*Enter Matrenis and Gurney.*

*Mor. in.* Inough *Matrenis*, write a Letter presently  
Vnto the Lord of *Bartley* from our selfe,  
That he resigne the King to thee and *Gurney*,  
And when tis done, we will subscribe our name,

*Mat.* It shall be done my Lord.

*Mor. in. Gurney.*

*Gur.* My Lord.

*Mor. in.* As thou intendest to rise by *Mortimer*,  
Who now makes Fortunes wheele turne as he please,  
Seeke all the meanes thou canst to make him droope,  
And neither giue him kind word nor good look.

*Gur.* I warrant you my Lord.

*Mor. in.* And this about the rest, because we heare  
That *Edmond* casts to worke his liberty,  
Remoue him still from place to place by night,  
Till at the last he come to Killingworth,  
And then from thence to *Bartley* backe againe:  
And by the way to make him fret the more,  
Speake curstly to him, and in any case  
Let no man comfort him, If he chance to weepe,  
But amplifie his griefe with bitter words.

*Matr.* Feare not my Lord, weele do as you command,

*Mor. in.* So now away, post thither wards amaine.

*Qu.* Whither goes this Letter, to my Lord the King?  
Commend me humbly to his Maiesty,  
And tell him, that I labour all in vaine,  
To ease his griefe, and worke his liberty:  
And beare him this, as witnesse of my loue,

*Mat.* I will Madam.

*Exeunt Matrenis and Gurney.*

*Manent Isabell and Mortimer.*

*Enter the young Prince, and the Earle of Kent*  
*talking with him.*

*Mor. in.* Finely dissembled, do so still sweete Queene,  
Here



## *The Tragedy*

Here comes the young Prince with the Earle of Kent.

*Qu.* Something he whispers in his childish eares.

*Mor. in.* If he haue such accesse vnto the Prince,  
Our plots and stratagems will soone be dasht.

*Qu.* Vse *Edmond* friendly, as if all were well.

*Mor. in.* How fares my Honourable Lord of Kent?

*Edm.* In health sweet *Mortimer*: how fares your Grace?

*Qu.* Well, if my Lord your brother were enlarg'd.

*Edm.* I heare of late he hath depos'd himselfe.

*Qu.* The more my griefe.

*Mor. in.* And mine.

*Edm.* Ah they doe dissemble.

*Qu.* Sweete sonne come hither, I must talke with thee.

*Mor. in.* You being his Vncle, and the next of bloud,  
Doe looke to be Protector ouer the Prince.

*Edm.* Not I my Lord: who should protect the sonne,  
But she that gaue him life, I meane the Queene?

*Prin.* Mother, perswademe not to weare the Crowne,  
Let him be King, I am too young to raigne.

*Qu.* But be content, seeing it is his Highnes pleasure.

*Prin.* Let mee but see him first, and then I will.

*Edm.* I do sweete Nephew.

*Qu.* Brother you know it is impossible,

*Prin.* Why, is he dead?

*Qu.* No, God forbid.

*Edm.* I would those words proceeded from your heart.

*Mor. in.* Inconstant *Edmond* doest thou fauour him,  
That wast a cause of his imprisonment?

*Edm.* The more cause haue I now to make amends.

*Mor. in.* I tell thee tis not meet, that one so false  
Should come about the Person of a Prince,  
My Lord, he hath betray'd the King his brother,  
And therefore trust him not.

*Prin.* But he repents and sorrowes for it now.

*Qu.* Come Son, and go with this gentle Lord and me.

*Prin.* With you I will, but not with *Mortimer*.

*Mor.* Why yongling, s'daint thou so of *Mortimer*?  
Then I will carry thee by force away.

*Prin.*



*of Edward the second.*

*Prin.* Helpe Vnkle Kent, *Mortimer* will wrong me.

*Qu.* Brother *Edmond*, strive not, we are his friends,  
*Isabell* is neerer then the Earle of Kent.

*Edm.* Sister, *Edward* is my charge, redeeme him.

*Qu.* *Edward* is my sonne, and I will keepe him.

*Edm.* *Mortimer* shall know that he hath wrong'd me.  
Hence will I hast to Killingworth Castle,  
And rescue aged *Edward* from his foes,  
To be reueng'd on *Mortimer* and thee.

*Exeunt omnes.*

*Enter Matrenis and Gurney with the King.*

*Mat.* My Lord, be not pensiue, we are your friends,  
Men are ordain'd to liue in misery,  
Therefore come, dalliance dangereth our liues.

*Edw.* Friends, whither must vnhappy *Edward* goe,  
Will hatefull *Mortimer* appoint no rest?  
Must I be vexed like the nightly Bird,  
Whose sight is loathsome to all winged Fowles?  
When will the fury of his mind assuage?  
When will his heart be satisfied with bloud?  
If mine will serue, vnbowell straight this brest,  
And giue my heart to *Isabell* and him,  
It is the chiefest marke they leuell at.

*Gur.* Not so my Leige, the Queene hath giuen this  
To keepe your Grace in safety, (charge,  
Your passions make your dolours encrease.

*Edw.* This vsage makes my misery encrease,  
But can my ayre of life continue long,  
When all my senses are annoy'd with stench?  
Within a Dungeon Englands King is kept,  
Where I am staru'd for want of sustenance,  
My dayly diet is heart-breaking sobs,  
That almost rents the closet of my heart,  
Thus liues old *Edward* not relieu'd by any,  
And so must dye, though pittied by many.  
O water gentle friends to coole my thirst,  
And cleere my body from foule excrements.

*Mat.* Heer's channell water as our charge is giuen,



## *The Tragedy*

Sit downe, for wee le be Barbaras to your Grace.

*Edw.* Traytors away, what will you murder me,  
Or choake your Soueraigne with puddle water?

*Gur.* No, but wash your face, & shawe away your beard,  
Lest you be knowne, and so be rescued.

*Matr.* Why strue you thus, your labour is in vaine?

*Edw.* The Wren may strue against the Lions strength,  
But all in vaine, so vainely do I strue,  
To seeke for mercy at a Tyrants hand.

*They wash him with puddle water, and shawe  
his beard away.*

Immortall powers, that knowes the painefull cares,  
That waites vpon my poore distressed soule,  
O leuell all your looks vpon these daring men,  
That wrongs their Leige & Soueraigne, Englands King,  
O *Gaueston*, it is for thee that I am wrong'd,  
For me, both thou and both the *Spencers* died,  
And for your sakes a thousand wrongs Ile take,  
The *Spencers* Ghosts where euer they remaine,  
Wish well to mine, then tush, for them Ile dye.

*Matr.* Twixt theirs and yours shall be no enmity,  
Come, come away, now put the Torches out,  
Weele enter in by darkenisse to Killingworth.

*Enter Edmond.*

*Gur.* How now, who comes there?

*Matr.* Guard the King sure, it is the Earle of Kent.

*Edw.* O gentle brother helpe to rescue me.

*Matr.* Keepe them asunder, thrust in the King.

*Edm.* Souldiers, let me but talke to him one word.

*Gur.* Lay hands vpon the Earle for his assault.

*Edm.* Lay down your weapons, traytors yeeld the King.

*Matr.* *Edmond*, yeeld thou thy selfe, or thou shalt dye.

*Edm.* Base Villaines, wherefore do you gripe me thus?

*Gur.* Bind him, and so conuey him to the Court.

*Edm.* Where is the Court but heere, here is the King,  
And I will visite him, why stay you me?

*Matr.* The Court is where Lord *Mortimer* remaines,  
Thither shall your honour goe, and so farewell.

*Exeunt*



of Edward the second.

*Exeunt Matreus and Gurney, with the King.*

*Manent Edmond and the Souldiers.*

*Edm.* O miserable is that common weale, where Lords  
Keepe Courts, and Kings are lockt in Prison!

*Sould.* Wherefore stay we? on Sirs to the Court.

*Edm.* I, lead me whither you will, euen to my death,  
Seeing that my Brother cannot be releast.

*Exeunt omnes.*

*Enter Mortimer alone.*

*Mor. in.* The King must dye, or *Mortimer* goes down,  
The Commons now begin to pittie him,  
Yet he that is the cause of *Edwards* death,  
Is sure to pay for it when his sonne is of age,  
And therefore will I doe it cunningly,  
This Letter written by a friend of ours,  
Containes his death, yet bids them saue his life,  
*Edwardum occidere nolite timere bonum est.*  
Feare not to kill the King, tis good he dye;  
But reade it thus, and that's another sense:  
*Edwardum occidere nolite timere bonum est.*  
Kill not the King, tis good to feare the worst.  
Vnpointed as it is, thus shall it goe,  
That being dead, if it chance to be found,  
*Matreus* and the rest may beare the blame,  
And we be quit that caus'd it to be done.  
Within this Roome is lock'd the Mellenger,  
That shall conuey it, and performe the rest,  
And by a secret token that he beares,  
Shall he be murdered when the deed is done.

*Lightborne* come forth, art thou so resolute as thou wast?

*Light.* What else my Lord? and farre more resolute.

*Mor. in.* And hast thou cast how to accomplish it?

*Light.* I, I, and none shall know which way he died.

*Mor. in.* But at his lookes *Lightborne* thou wilt relent.

*Light.* Relent, ha, ha, I vse much to relent.

*Mor. in.* Well, doe it brauely, and be secret.

*Light.* You shall not neede to giue instructions,  
Tis not the first time I haue kil'd a man,



## The Tragedy

I learn'd in Naples how to poyson Flowers,  
To strangle with a Lawne thrust downe the throate,  
To pierce the wind-pipe with a needles point,  
Or whilst one is asleepe, to take a Quill  
And blow a little powder in his eares,  
Or open his mouth, and powre quick-siluer downe,  
But yet I haue a brauer way then these.

*Mor.* What's that?

(tricks.

*Light.* Nay, you shall pardon me, none shall know my

*Mor.* I care not how it is, so it be not spide,

Deliuier this to *Gurney* and *Matrenis*,

At euery ten miles end thou hast a Horse.

Take this, away, and neuer see me more.

*Light.* No?

*Mor.* No, vnlesse thou bring me news of *Edwards* death.

*Light.* That will I quickly do, farewell my Lord.

*Mor.* The Prince I rule, the Queene do I command,

And with a lowly conge to the ground,

The proudest Lords salute me as I passe,

I seale, I cancell, I do what I will,

Fear'd am I more then lou'd, let me be fear'd:

And when I frowne make all the Court looke pale.

I view the Prince with *Aristarcus* eyes,

Whose looks were as a breeching to a boy,

They thrust vpon me the Protectorship,

And sue to me for that, that I desire,

While at the Councell Table, graue enough,

And not vnlike a bashfull Puritaine,

First I complaine of imbecility,

Saying it is, *onus quàm grauissimum*,

Till being interrupted by my friends,

*Suscepi* that *provinciam* as they terme it,

And to conclude, I am Protector now,

Now is all sure, the Queene and *Mortimer*

Shall rule the Realme, the King, and none rules vs.

Mine enemies will I plague, my friends aduance,

And what I list command, who dare controule,

*Maior sum quàm cui possit fortuna nocere,*

And



*of Edward the second.*

And that this be the coronation day,  
It pleaseth me, and *Isabell* the Queene,  
The Trumpets sound, I must goe take my place.

*Enter the young King, Bishop, Champion, Nobles, Queene.*

*Bish.* Long liue King *Edward*: by the grace of God,  
King of England, and Lord of Ireland.

*Cham.* If any Christian, Heathen, Turke, or Iew,  
Dares but affirme, that *Edwards* not true King,  
And will auouch his saying with the sword,  
I am the Champion that will combat him.

*Mor. iij.* None comes, sound Trumpets.

*King.* Champion here's to thee.

*Qu.* Lord *Mortimer*, now take him to your charge.

*Enter Souldiers with the Earle of Kent prisoner.*

*Mor.* What Traytor haue we there with Blades & Bils?

*Sould.* *Edmond* the Earle of Kent.

*King.* What hath he done?

*Sould.* A would haue taken the King away perforce,  
As we were bringing him to Killingworth.

*Mor. iij.* Did you attempt his rescue? *Edmond* speake.

*Edm.* *Mortimer*, I did, he is our King,  
And thou compels't this Prince to weare the Crowne.

*Mor. iij.* Strike off his head, he shall haue Marshall law.

*Edm.* Strike off my head, base Traytor I defie thee.

*King.* My Lord, he is my Vnkle, and shall liue.

*Mor. iij.* My Lord, he is your enemy, and shall dye.

*Edm.* Stay Villaines.

*King.* Sweete Mother if I cannot pardon him,  
Intreate my Lord Protector for his life.

*Qu.* Some be content, I dare not speake a word.

*King.* Nor I, and yet me thinkes I should command,  
But seeing I cannot, Ile intreat for him:  
My Lord, if you will let my Vnkle liue,  
I will requite it when I come to age.

*Mor. iij.* Tis for your Highnesse good, and for the  
Realmes.

How often shall I bid you beare him hence?

*Edm.* Art thou a King, must I dye at thy command?

*Mor.*



*The Tragedy*

*Mor. in.* At our command once more away with him.

*Edm.* Let me but stay and speake, I will not goe,  
Either my Brother or his sonne is King,  
And none of both them thirst for *Edmonds* blood.  
And therefore Souldiers whither will you hale me?

*They hale Edmond away, and carry him to  
be beheaded.*

*King.* What safety may I looke for at his hands,  
If that my Vnkle shall be murthered thus?

*Qu.* Feare not sweet boy, Ile guard thee from thy foes.  
Had *Edmond* liu'd he would haue sought thy death,  
Come sonne, weele ride a hunting in the Parke.

*King.* And shall my Vnkle *Edmond* ride with vs?

*Qu.* He is a Traytor, thinke not on him, come.

*Exeunt omnes.*

*Enter Matreuis and Gurney.*

*Matr.* Gurney, I wonder the King dyes not,  
Being in a Vault vp to the knees in water,  
To which the channels of the Bastell runs,  
From whence a dampe continually ariseth,  
That were enough to poyson any man,  
Much more a King brought vp so tenderly.

*Gur.* And so do I, *Matreuis*: yesternight  
I opened but the doore to throw him meate,  
And I was almost stifled with the saour.

*Matr.* He hath a body able to endure  
More then we can inflict, and therefore now,  
Let vs assaile his mind another while.

*Gur.* Send for him out thence, and I will anger him.

*Matr.* But stay, whose this?

*Enter Lightborne.*

*Light.* My Lord Protector greetes you.

*Gur.* Whats heere? I know not how to construe it.

*Matr.* Gurney, It was left vnpointed for the nonce,  
*Edwardum occidere nolite timere,*  
That's his meaning.

*Light.* Know you this token, I must haue the King?

*Matr.* I, stay a while, thou shalt haue answere straight,  
This



*of Edward the second.*

This Villain's sent to make away the King.

*Gurney.* I thought as much.

*Matr.* And when the murther's done,  
See how he must be handled for his labour,  
*Pereat iste.* Let him haue the King,  
What else, here's the Keyes, this is the Lake,  
Doe as you are commanded by my Lord.

*Light.* I know what I must doe, get you away,  
Yet be not farre off, I shall need your helpe,  
See that in the next roome I haue a Fire,  
And get me a Spit, and let it be red hot.

*Matr.* Very well.

*Gur.* Neede you any thing besides?

*Light.* What else, a Table and a Fetherbed.

*Gur.* That's all.

*Light.* I, I, so when I call you, bring it in.

*Matr.* Feare not thou that.

*Gurn.* Heer's a light to goe into the Dungeon.

*Light.* So, now must I about this geere, neare was  
there any

So finely handled as this King shall be,  
Foh, here's a place indeed with all my heart.

*Edw.* Whose there, what light is that, wherefore  
com'st thou?

*Light.* To comfort you, and bring you ioyfull newes.

*Edw.* Smal comfort finds poore *Edward* in thy lookes,  
Villaine I know thou com'st to murder me.

*Light.* To murther you my most gracious Lord,  
Farre is it from my heart to do you harme,  
The *Queene* sent me, to see how you were vsed,  
For she relents at this your misery.

And what eyes can refraine from shedding teares,  
To see a King, in this most pitious state?

*Edw.* Weep'st thou already, list awhile to me,  
And then thy heart were it as *Gurneys* is,  
Or as *Matrenis*, hewne from the *Caucasus*,  
Yet will it melt, ere I haue done my tale.

This Dungeon where they keepe me, is the sinke

K

Wherein



*The Tragedy*

Wherein the filth of all the Castle falles.

*Light.* O Villaines!

*Edw.* And therein mire and puddle haue I stood,  
This ten dayes space, and lest that I should sleepe,  
One playes continually vpon a Drum,  
They giue me bread and water being a King,  
So that for want of sleepe and sustenance,  
My mind's distempered, and my bodie's num'd,  
And whether I haue limbs or no I know not,  
O would my bloud dropt out from euery veine,  
As doth this water from my tottered robes.  
Tell *Isabell* the Queene, I look't not thus,  
When for her sake I ran attilt in France,  
And there vnhorst the Duke of *Cleremont*. (heart,

*Light.* O speake no more my Lord, this breakes my  
Lye on this bed and rest your selfe a while.

*Edw.* These lookes of thine can harbour nought but  
I see my Tragedy written in thy browes, (death,  
Yet stay a while, forbear thy bloody hand;  
And let me see the stroke before it comes,  
That and euen then when I shall lose my life,  
My mind may be more stedfast on my God. (thus?

*Light.* What meanes your Highnesse to mistrust mee?

*Edw.* What meanes thou to dissemble with me thus?

*Light.* These hands were neuer stain'd with innocent  
Nor shall they now be rainted with a Kings. (bloud,

*Edw.* Forgiue my thought, for hauing such a thought,  
One Iewell haue I left, receiue thou this,  
Still feare I, and I know not what's the cause,  
But euery ioynt shakes as I giue it thee:  
O if thou harbourst murder in thy heart,  
Let this gift change thy mind, and saue thy soule,  
Know that I am a King, oh at that name,  
I feele a hell of griefe, where is my Crowne:  
Gone, gone, and doe I remaine?

*Light.* Your ouer-wacht my Lord, lye downe and rest.

*Edw.* But that griefe keepes me waking, I should sleepe.  
For not these ten dayes haue these eye-lids clos'd,

Now



*of Edward the second.*

Now as I speake they fall, and yet with feare  
Open againe, O wherefore sits thou heere?

*Light.* If you mistrust me, Ile be gone my Lord.

*Edw.* No, no, for if thou meanst to murther me,  
Thou wilt returne againe, and therefore stay.

*Light.* He sleepest.

*Edw.* O let me not dye yet, O stay a while.

*Light.* How now my Lord.

*Edw.* Some thing still buzzeth in mine eares,  
And tels me if I sleepe I neuer wake,  
This feare is that which makes me tremble thus,  
And therefore tell me, wherefore art thou come?

*Light.* To rid thee of thy life, *Matrenis* come,

*Edw.* I am too weake and feeble to resist,  
Assist me sweet God, and receiue my soule.

*Light.* Runne for the Table.

*Edw.* O spare me, or dispatch me in a trice.

*Light.* So, lay the Table downe, and stampe on it,  
But not too hard, lest that you bruise his body.

*Matr.* I feare me that this cry will raise the Towne,  
And therefore let vs take horse and away.

*Light.* Tell me sirs, was it not brauely done?

*Gur.* Excellent well, take this for thy reward.

*Then Gurney stabs Lightborne.*

Come let vs cast the body in the Mote.

And beare the Kings to *Mortimer* our Lord, away.

*Exeunt omnes.*

*Enter Mortimer and Matrenis.*

*Mor. in.* Ist done, *Matrenis*, and the murtherer dead?

*Matr.* I my good Lord, I would it were vndone.

*Mor. in.* *Matrenis*, if thou growest penitent  
Ile be thy ghostly father, therefore chuse  
Whether thou wilt be secret in this,  
Or else dye by the hand of *Mortimer*.

*Matr.* *Gurney*, my Lord, is fled, and will I feare  
Betray vs both, therefore let me flye.

*Mor. in.* Fly to the Sauages.

*Matr.* I humbly thanke your Honour.



*The Tragedy*

*Mor. in.* As for my selfe, I stand as *Ioues* huge tree,  
And others are but shrubs compar'd to me,  
All tremble at my name, and I feare none,  
Lets see who dare impeach me for his death?

*Enter the Queene.*

*Qu.* A *Mortimer*, the King my sonne hath newes,  
His father's dead, and we haue murthered him.

*Mor. in.* What if he haue? the King is yet a child.

*Que.* I, I, but he teares his haire and wrings his hands,  
And vowes to be reueng'd vpon vs both,  
Into the Councell Chamber he is gone,  
To craue the aid and succour of his Peeres,  
Aye me, see where he comes, and they with him,  
Now *Mortimer* begins our Tragedy.

*Enter the King with the Lords.*

*Lords.* Feare not my Lord, know that you are a King.  
*King.* Villaine.

*Mor. in.* How now my Lord?

*King.* Thinkenot that I am frighted with thy words,  
My father's murthered through thy trechery,  
And thou shalt dye, and on his mournfull Herse,  
Thy hatefull and accursed head shall lye,  
To witnesse to the world, that by thy meanes  
His Kingly body was too soone inter'd.

*Qu.* Weepenot sweete sonne.

*King.* Forbid not me to weepe, he was my Father,  
And had you lou'd him halfe so well as I,  
You could not beare his death thus patiently,  
But you I feare conspir'd with *Mortimer*.

*Lords.* Why speake you not vnto my Lord the King?

*Mor. in.* Because I thinke scorne to be accus'd,  
Who is the man dares say I murthered him?

*King.* Traytour, in me my louing Father speakes,  
And plainely saith, t'was thou that murtheredst him.

*Mor. in.* But hath your Grace no other prooffe then

*King.* Yes, if this be the hand of *Mortimer*. (this?)

*Mor. in.* False *Gurney* hath betray'd me and himselfe.

*Qu.* I fear'd as much, murther cannot be hid.

*Mor.*



*Mor. in.* Tis my hand, what gather you by this?

*King.* That thither thou didst send a Murtherer.

*Mor. in.* What Murtherer? bring forth the man I sent.

*King.* Ah *Mortimer*, thou know'st that he is slaine,  
And so shalt thou be too: why stayes he heere?

Bring him vnto a Hurdle, drag him forth,

Hang him I say, and set his quarters vp,

But bring his head backe presently to me.

*Qu.* For my sake sweete sonne pittie *Mortimer*.

*Mor. in.* Madame intreat not, I will rather dye,  
Then sue for life vnto a paltry Boy.

*King.* Hence with the Traytor, with the Murtherer.

*Mor. in.* Base Fortune, now I see, that in thy Wheele  
There is a point, to which when men aspire,  
They tumble headlong downe, that point I toucht,  
And seeing there was no place to mount vp higher,  
Why should I grieve at my declining fall?  
Farewell faire Queene, weepe not for *Mortimer*,  
That scernes the World, and as a Traueller  
Goes to discouer Countries yet vnknowne.

*King.* What, suffer you the Traytor to delay?

*Qu.* As thou receiud'st thy life from me,  
Spill not the bloud of gentle *Mortimer*.

*King.* This argues that you spilt my Fathers bloud,  
Els would you not intreat for *Mortimer*.

*Que.* I spill his bloud?

*King.* I Madam, you, for so the rumour runnes.

*Que.* That rumour is vntrue, for louing thee,  
Is this report rais'd on poore *Isabell*.

*King.* I do not thinke her so vnnaturall.

*Lords.* My Lord, I feare me it will proue too true.

*King.* Mother you are suspected for his death,  
And therefore we commit you to the Tower,  
Till further tryall be made thereof,  
If you be guilty, though I be your sonne,  
Thinke not to finde me slack or pittifull.

*Qu.* Nay, to my death, for too long haue I liu'd,  
When as my sonne thinkes to abridge my dayes.



*King.* Away with her, her words inforce these teares,  
And I shall pittie her if she speake againe.

*Qu.* Shall I not mourne for my beloued Lord?  
And with the rest accompany him to the Graue?

*Lor.* Thus Madam, tis the Kings will you shall hence.

*Qu.* He hath forgotten me, itay, I am his Mother.

*Lords.* That bootes not, therefore gentle Madam goe.

*Qu.* Then come sweet death, and rid me of this griefe.

*Lords.* My Lord, heere is the head of *Mortimer*.

*King.* Goe fetch my Fathers hearse, where it shall lye,  
And bring my Funerall Robes. Accursed head,  
Could I haue rul'd thee then, as I doe now,  
Thou hadst not hatcht this monstrous Trechery.  
Here comes the Harse, helpe me to mourne my Lords:  
Sweete Father heere, vnto thy murdered Ghost,  
I offer vp this wicked Traytors head,  
And let these teares distilling from mine eyes,  
Be witnesse of my griefe and innocency.

*FINIS.*





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